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## NEWS SUMMARY

### GENERAL

## Police shoot siege girl

Police have admitted shooting and seriously wounding a 16-year-old girl as they tried to rescue her from a man armed with a shotgun after a Birmingham siege.

The man was using Gaff Kitchen as a shield, as he exchanged fire with police in a bid to escape.

West Midlands police said a medical examination showed his injuries were not caused by a shotgun, as first thought, but apparently by shots fired by police as they arrested the man.

A 31-year-old unemployed man appeared before Birmingham magistrates accused of attempting to murder Mr. James Wood of Stinchley, Birmingham. The result was 1-1.

### Gas halts match

England's opening European championship match against Belgium in Turin was stopped for six minutes when goal-keeper Ray Clemence was overcome by police tear gas after English fans attacked Italians. The result was 1-1.

### Iran hostage plan

A plan was worked out for negotiating the release of the American hostages when Austrian Chancellor Bruno Kreisky met Iranian Foreign Minister Sadeq Quitzizadeh in Oslo, the Chancellor said.

### "Julie" cash

The House of Lords ruled that court orders made against members of the "Operation Julie" drug ring to forfeit the proceeds from their crimes were unlawful. But it refused to order the Director of Public Prosecutions to give seized assets back to the gang.

### Cabinet resigns

The Japanese cabinet resigned following the sudden death of Prime Minister Masayoshi Ohira, but Ministers will stay at their posts until after the general election on June 22. Back Page; Feature, Page 20

### Sir Billy dies

Sir Billy Butlin, millionaire founder of Britain's first holiday camp chain, died at his Jersey home, aged 80, after a long illness.

### Soviets killed

Four Soviet soldiers were reported to have been killed in Kabul as fighting continued between rebels and the Soviet army in the Afghan mountains northwest of the Afghanistan capital. Page 4.

### Yachtsman found

A British competitor in the Observer Single-handed Trans-Atlantic Yacht Race was spotted in his life raft by an RAF Nimrod 1,200 miles from Land's End. RAF planes were still looking for two yachts which have been out of contact with race organisers for some time. Page 10.

### Coming home

The final draft of Gilbert White's classic "The Natural History of Selborne" has been bought from an American collector for £100,000 by the Gilbert White Museum in the Hampshire village. Page 8.

### French leave

France decided to withdraw 60 gendarmes sent to the New Hebrides on Wednesday only a day after Britain decided to send 200 marines. Page 4.

### Briefly . . .

Two men got away with £30,000 in a raid on a Bank of Ireland branch in Holloway, London. Two sepoys have hatched at Loch Garten, Speyside.

### CHIEF PRICE CHANGES YESTERDAY

(Prices in pence unless otherwise indicated)	
RISSES	
Excheq. 13/4c 1982	204 + 4
Treas. 13/4c '87	5100 + 4
Applied Computer T	335 + 10
Asset News	305 + 15
Bank of Scotland	265 + 12
Barratt Devs.	115 + 4
Bulmer (H. P.)	161 + 9
Carr's Milling	31 + 11
Cont. Stationery	56 + 4
Coral Leisure	67 + 7
Dawson Intnl.	101 + 6
De La Rue	690 + 20
Farnell Elec.	286 + 10
GEC Instr.	72 + 4
GKN	239 + 2
Humber	418 + 12
Hill Samuel	94 + 4
Land Securities	319 + 7
Le Coop	205 + 22
Metal Box	296 + 12
FALLS	
BP	368 - 4
Geevor Tin	180 - 20
Postscript	172 - 6
Western Mining	239 - 11

## Schmidt opens bid for more equality in EEC payments

BY JOHN WYLES IN VENICE

CHANCELLOR Helmut Schmidt of West Germany yesterday launched his attempt to edge the EEC towards restructuring its budget so that no single member state will continue paying vastly more to Brussels than the others.

Mr Schmidt's move came at the EEC heads of government summit in Venice. Recognising that such a fundamental reform touches sensitive political issues including the Common Agricultural Policy and, possibly, enlargement of the Community, his approach was low key and developed initially in a lunch conversation with President Giscard d'E斯塔ing of France and then at a session with Mrs. Margaret Thatcher.

After their last two bruising encounters in Luxembourg and Dublin over the UK's demands for cuts in its payments to the Community, the EEC leaders were determined to put their relations back on a more tranquil footing.

But in an effort to ease sharp disagreements at official level, the heads of government spent 90 minutes discussing the declaration on the Middle East which the summit is supposed to issue today. In the political directors' working group, France was said to be resisting attempts to weaken the EEC position which seemed to be emerging last week, which pointed to a statement urging the involvement of the Palestinian Liberation Organisation in negotiations on a comprehen-

sive Middle East peace settle-

ment. West Germany believes that the prospect of the EEC exhausting its budgetary resources within the next two years, plus enlargement through Spanish and Portuguese membership, are pressures which must now force reform.

These differences point to varying susceptibility to strong American pressure against any EEC statement which might undermine the US efforts to restart the Camp David talks on Palestinian autonomy.

The UK, which last week favoured a declaration calling for the inclusion of the PLO in any negotiations, was among those which appeared to be softening their positions last night.

On the thorny EEC budget question, it was not clear, whether the government leaders would confine themselves to private discussions or make a public statement.

Chancellor Schmidt wants agreement on an end of 1981 deadline for settling the question, possibly on the basis of limiting each member state's payments to and receipts from the EEC and through effective

curbs on farm spending growth.

West Germany believes that the prospect of the EEC exhausting its budgetary resources within the next two years, plus enlargement through Spanish and Portuguese membership, are pressures which must now force reform.

However, the subject will be treated very gingerly until after the presidential elections in France next spring because it is recognised that President Giscard will not agree to farm policy reforms which would arouse further opposition from rural voters.

But the French President has already spoken out in favour of limiting the cost of the EEC budget and its benefits. He is not happy that France will be paying around £230m to the EEC this year as result of the UK deal, when it would otherwise have been a small net beneficiary.

The heads of government were expected to spend some time over dinner discussing nominees for the post of president of the European Commission to replace Mr. Roy Jenkins, who retires at the end of this year.

### EEC FEARS TRADE WAR

COMMON MARKET government leaders are aiming to present a coherent and unified position on trade at the seven-power western summit meeting in Venice later this month.

The EEC leaders, meeting this week in the European Council, are concerned that protectionist trade measures within the Community could trigger a damaging trade war involving Japan and the U.S. Back Page.

## Ilford plans to close three Essex factories

BY IAN RODGER

ILFORD, the financially-troubled photographic film and paper manufacturer, plans to close three factories in Essex and transfer black-and-white film production to its remaining factory in Cheshire.

The company, owned by the Ciba-Geigy, the Swiss chemical group, said yesterday it was also withdrawing from the manufacture of X-ray and micro-film products.

It would invest £30m in the next three-and-a-half years to increase the capacity and quality of its black-and-white film and paper production in the UK.

The restructuring proposal, part of a plan involving Ciba-Geigy photographic production in France and Switzerland, would result in about 2,500 lost jobs at Essex, but create 850 jobs at Mobberley, Cheshire, where 550 are employed.

The group will continue to manufacture black-and-white paper at Lyons, France, and

colour films, transparencies and chemicals at Fribourg, Switzerland. The Fribourg plant will stop production of graphic arts materials, with the loss of about 300 jobs.

Ilford has made losses in Britain in four of the last six years. It said it had inadequate market shares in the businesses from which it was withdrawing and so had been unable to benefit from economies of scale.

But its "highly successful" black-and-white films and papers business justified substantial investment.

The company will be consulting its employees in the next three months and expects redundancies to be phased over two to three years.

Mr. Tony Whately, divisional officer of the Association of Scientific, Technical and Managerial Staffs, the union responsible for Ilford's monthly salary staff, said the closure

plans were "a disaster for

employment prospects in the south-east."

The transfer of film production to Mobberley would force the company to cease production for six to 18 months. It was merely a prelude to the company's complete withdrawal from manufacturing in Britain, he said.

The company said production of film would continue at Brentwood, Essex, until new facilities in Cheshire were ready.

The company's large investment belied any intention to cease manufacturing.

ASTMS was also worried that the end of X-ray manufacturing would leave the National Health Service dependent on foreign suppliers.

The other major supplier of X-ray film, Kodak, shifted manufacturing out of Britain in 1978.

Among Ilford's main suppliers are ICI, which provides acetate and polyester base for film, and silver bullion dealers Johnson Matthey.

### Europcar bid to be probed

BY ARTHUR SANDLES

THE £22m bid by Europcar for the car rental activities of Godfrey Davis is being referred to the Monopolies Commission. Europcar belongs to René, the State-owned French car company.

The commission has six months to report on a deal which would give the French company control of Britain's largest car rental company and one which traditionally buys Ford cars.

Although Whittlehall is anxious to play down suggestions that the reference is a reprisal against French attitudes towards

recent British takeover moves in France there is little doubt that many will see it in this light.

The Department of Trade said last night the reference did not mean it was opposed to the takeover, but it wished to have the implications examined.

Godfrey Davis' car rental fleet last year reached a peak of 8,500 cars in Britain, fewer than rivals Hertz and Avis achieved, but because of the all-year nature of its business it is probably bigger than these American giants in the UK market. Europcar, with only 463 vehicles at

most, is relatively small in the British market.

The DoT is said to be concerned about the prospect of the first major piece of vertical integration in the British market in which a car rental company would be owned by a large car maker. Europcar however, like most other rental companies in the UK, is a heavy buyer of Ford cars.

The Hertz car rental operator considered a counter-bid for

Confidential on Back Page

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## Consett steel closure date set

BY ALAN PIKE

THE BRITISH Steel Corporation yesterday took the last major risk of confrontation over its big redundancy programme and told union leaders at the Consett Plant in Co. Durham to close by the end of September with the loss of nearly 4,000 jobs.

If the Consett workers go quiet, the corporation will be set to achieve the £2.00 reduction in its workforce announced in December without another dispute on top of last winter's three-month pay strike.

The Consett workers, however, reacted to yesterday's announcement by declaring that they would step up their fight to save the works, and national union leaders have said they will back the campaign.

Closure would turn what is already an area of high unemployment into one where more than 30 per cent of the male workforce would be without work.

Announcement of the closure date was made to union representatives by Mr. Derek Saul, managing director of BSC's Teesside Division, at a meeting in the local civic hall which was picketed by workers campaigning to save Consett.

Local union leaders argue that there is no justification for closing the works, which produces some of BSC's highest quality material. But the corporation said the decision had been made against a background of falling demand for billets and billet-derived products, largely because of the decline in the motor and engineering industries.

The corporation had an excess of billet production, and considered the most economical solution to be the closure of Consett's orders will be transferred to plants in Yorkshire and Humberside Division, and the corporation is satisfied that this will not result in a loss of business.

Closure of Consett will produce 3,700 redundancies, 800 of them among white-collar staff. While this is considerably fewer than the job reductions negotiated by BSC in South Wales recently, Consett is in some ways a more delicate problem partly because of the disruptive impact on the local community and partly because it is a total closure.

British Steel said it was aware that it was the biggest employer in the Consett area and that the social effects of the closure would be serious. BSC Industry, the corporation's organisation which attempts to attract new jobs to declining steel areas, is at work in Consett.

The reluctance of the big banks to match First Boston was slightly puzzling in that the prime is still considered by analysts to be out of line

## Soviet car strike over food supplies

BY DAVID SATTER IN MOSCOW

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## EUROPEAN NEWS

## Rise forecast for investment in W. Germany

BY JONATHAN CARR IN BONN

WEST GERMAN industry is likely to boost investment in fixed assets by 10 per cent in real terms this year, though industrialists are increasingly gloomy about business prospects.

This apparent contradiction emerges from the latest survey of investment planning in manufacturing industry, carried out in March and April by the IFO economic research institute of Munich and released today.

The survey, which is made twice a year about 4,000 companies, indicates that investment will increase in 1980 by about 15 per cent in nominal terms, or about 10 per cent after allowing for price increases. In 1979 investment rose almost 11 per cent in real terms.

No less than 37 per cent of companies give extension of capacity as the main reason for investment this year, while 35 per cent give rationalisation as the chief motive. This is a reversal of the emphasis on rationalisation of the last few years.

These results are curious since German business opinion surveys since last autumn have indicated growing scepticism about prospects in coming months.

### Schmidt expects to stay as leader of government

BY OUR BONN CORRESPONDENT

THE WEST GERMAN Chancellor, Herr Helmut Schmidt, says he expects to remain as leader of the Government in Bonn throughout the next legislative period to 1984 "and perhaps even a bit longer."

Herr Schmidt made this confident prediction yesterday in an interview with the mass-circulation daily newspaper Bild, two days after the congress of his Social Democratic Party in Essen, which was preparing for the general election on October 5.

Although Herr Schmidt and other Social Democrat leaders have warned against over-confidence and have stressed they plan to fight for every possible vote, the Chancellor gave no sign in the interview

that he had any doubt about the election result.

Asked why he had not devoted much attention in his Essen speech to Herr Franz Josef Strauss, his opposition challenger, Herr Schmidt replied that he had said what was needed. He did not have the time to go into every charge which Herr Strauss made against him.

The Chancellor also rejected the opposition charge that he was a prisoner of his party's left-wing, saying he was nobody's prisoner and that the left would not gain more influence through the election.

He was Chancellor of a Social Democrat-Liberal coalition, and would remain so.

## Half France blacked out by power workers

By David Satter in Moscow

FRANCE suffered widespread electricity cuts, train stoppages and traffic jams throughout yesterday as a result of a strike by power workers' branches of the two leading trade unions.

Up to half the normal electricity supply was affected at times. Metal-working industries were particularly badly hit by the 24-hour strike and the cuts disrupted Paris' underground rail services and put street lamps and traffic lights out of use.

The breakdown by sector also and other energy is markedly forcing up demand for energy-saving products and is one of the key reasons behind current investment.

Manufacturers of capital goods are planning to increase investment this year by a nominal 19 per cent, the biggest rise in any industrial sector. Included in this category are vehicle manufacturers, who are boosting investment by 30 per cent, primarily in a move towards production of smaller, fuel-saving models.

Investment in the semi-manufactured goods sector is likely to rise by a nominal 15 per cent in the food industry by 12 per cent and in consumer goods by only 7 per cent. Companies producing wood and leather goods will only increase their investment very slightly in 1980, while the textile industry's investment, in real terms, will probably decline.

The two unions, the Communist CGT and the Socialist-leaning CFDT, campaigning to keep the right to strike intact, managed a rare show of solidarity. Other unions also organised protests without taking part in the strike itself. Demonstrators pleaded their case outside the senate in Paris.

M. Andre Giraud, the Industry Minister, who was responsible for the proposed nuclear plant regulations, had been due to explain his position on television on Wednesday night but was prevented from doing so. The power was cut.

A powerful bomb destroyed part of a departure lounge at Orly Airport outside Paris yesterday, marking the latest in an intermittent series of attacks by Direct Action, a group believed to have links with Italy's Red Brigades. Seven cleaners were injured by the blast, which took place shortly after midnight, when there were no passengers in the area.

An anonymous telephone call later claimed responsibility on behalf of Direct Action. The attack was the second spectacular demonstration that a major police round-up in March failed to break the back of the group as had been hoped.

A month ago Direct Action members used a bazooka in a series of dawn attacks on Transport Ministry buildings in Paris.

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## STOPPAGE AT THE TOGLIATTI PLANT

### Strike a risky last resort for Soviet workers

BY DAVID SATTER IN MOSCOW

ALTHOUGH STRIKES are rare in the Soviet Union, they do occur occasionally and, in a country where it can be extremely difficult to redress grievances, they constitute a risky last resort.

The reported work stoppage at Togliatti, where 170,000 people are believed to have been made idle, is untypical of Soviet strikes. The workers' collective at Togliatti is unusually cohesive and for the 10 years the plant has operated there has been an unspoken understanding that high quality work would be rewarded with high pay and good conditions.

The basic pattern, however, reflected in the Togliatti stoppage—a mass action leading to the achievement of the desired results—is typical of peaceful worker action because workers' demands are usually non-political and are often viewed as fair by the authorities.

Another example of industrial action was a strike by women textile workers in the city of Ivanovo, north of Moscow. The women objected to plans to locate new textile factories in the town because they feared that, unless factories employing

men were established, they would have little chance of getting married.

Mr. Alexei Kosygin, the Soviet Prime Minister, came to Ivanovo to assure the women that factories employing men would be set up and they returned to work.

Most strikes in the Soviet Union concern such concrete issues and there are no known recent examples of strikes on behalf of political rights or greater freedoms.

There have been cases, however, where the reaction of the authorities has been brutal and repressive. These have been instances where strikes have been accompanied by disorder or where individuals from scattered enterprises have banded together to address general abuses on a national scale.

The best known example of a strike leading to violence and



deaths was in Novocherkassk in 1962 when Soviet troops opened fire on strikers protesting about the doubling of prices for meat, milk and butter.

After the first deaths, the strikers threw themselves furiously on the firing troops.

The strike was suppressed but a large number of

people are believed to have died.

A mechanism for redressing grievances exists in Soviet factories in the form of trade unions but these are not always effective because they are under firm party control.

The union leaders arrange special services, such as paid holidays, but they must also help management meet production quotas and enforce discipline. In 1977, a group of disaffected workers headed by Mr. Vladimir Kishanov, a former shift leader in a Donbas coal mine, attempted to organise an independent union.

The members of the group had all been sacked from their jobs for trying to protest about abuses outside the established unions. After they announced their intention to form an independent union, many were arrested or intimidated.

## Moscow lashes out at renegade parties

BY LESLIE COLLYN IN BERLIN

THE SOVIET UNION has levelled its first attack against Yugoslavia, Romania and the Eurocommunists of Western Europe since the death last month of President Tito, the Yugoslav leader, who began the move for the independence of Communist parties.

The two parties which refused to take part in a recent meeting of pro-Moscow Communist parties in Paris are accused of "unforgivable opportunism" in the current issue of the magazine "Problems of Peace and Socialism." The publication, which appears in Prague, compares the renegade parties with the "most dangerous forms of anti-Communism."

Prominent among the European Communist parties which did not take part in the Paris meeting were the Yugoslav, Romanian, Italian and Spanish.

The unsigned article in the Prague journal, whose editor-in-chief, Mr. Konstantin Saradov, is a member of the Soviet central committee, attacks the dissenting parties without ever naming them. This is standard practice among fraternal parties as distinguished from the name-calling between the Soviet and Chinese parties.

The magazine attacks the Eurocommunists for "revisionist attempts" to split the international Communist movement with the help of concepts such as "national communism" and the "two Marxisms—the Western and Eastern Marxisms."

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## Warning to Bonn on missiles

BY BRU KHNDARIA IN GENEVA

MOSCOW — The Soviet Communist Party newspaper Pravda yesterday called on the West German Government to reverse its decision to station U.S. nuclear missiles on its territory if it wanted to pursue military detente.

The blunt ultimatum comes less than three weeks before a visit here by Chancellor Helmut Schmidt. It suggests that Herr Schmidt, his Foreign Minister, would come under heavy pressure when they arrive here on June 30 to abandon West Germany's central role in plans agreed by NATO last December for a new generation of medium-range missiles.

Under the plans 574 Crusader and Pershing 2 missiles will be deployed under U.S. control in Western Europe from late 1983 as a counterweight to the build-up of Soviet SS20 missiles.

The Soviet Union has said talks on limiting missile arsenals cannot be held unless the NATO decision is abandoned or at least suspended, and it has rebuked a suggestion by Herr Schmidt for an immediate deployment freeze.

## Swiss trial for French officials

TWO FRENCH customs men

are to stand trial in Zurich on charges of economic espionage, undertaking banned activities in favour of a foreign Government and incitement to violate Swiss federal laws on banking secrecy.

Alarmed by the outcry in France because of the detention of the two officials last month, the Swiss are now playing down the incident. The public prosecutor has only asked for a 10-month suspended jail term for M. Bernard Rui and a five-month suspended sentence for M. Pierre Schulz. The prosecution is also seeking a fine of SwFr 5,000 (£1,314) for M. Rui and a SwFr 2,000 fine for M. Schulz.

The two accused were arrested for trying to collect information about the accounts of French citizens in Swiss banks but were later released on bail. Their lawyers are expected to seek postponement of the trial due to start next Tuesday. The Swiss are keen to speed matters up because of controversy in Switzerland about the grounds on which the

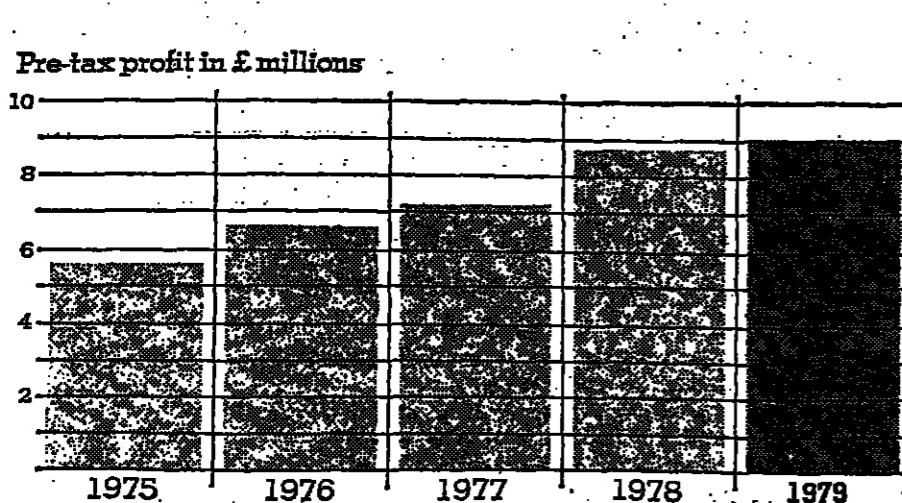
Frenchmen are being sued. There is growing sympathy with the French view that Switzerland should not regard investigations of tax evasion by foreign officials as economic espionage. The argument of Swiss banks that laxity towards such investigators will damage the confidence of foreign investors is viewed with scepticism by the Swiss Government and the national bank, which wants to stop Swiss banks from protecting tax evaders.

Many parliamentarians feel that Switzerland must agree to help foreign Governments investigate fiscal fraud especially as taxes are on the increase in all Switzerland's neighbours. A measure before the lower house of Parliament would authorise the Swiss Government to provide such help.

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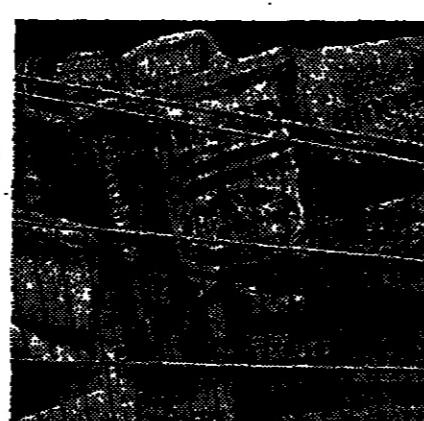


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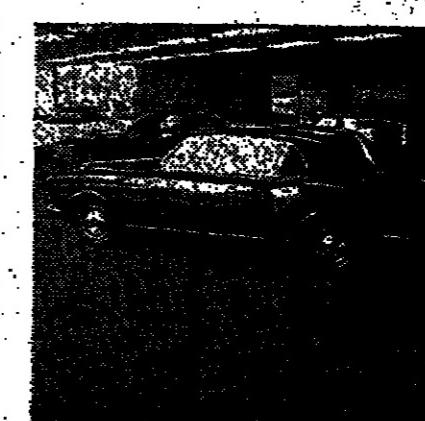
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كما في العالم

## Giscard's support takes a tumble

By Robert Mauthner in Paris

**THE FRENCH** President, M. Valery Giscard d'Estaing, would face an extremely tough battle in the next presidential election. If the Socialist party decided to nominate M. Michel Rocard, the leader of its moderate wing, as its official candidate, according to a public opinion poll published yesterday.

The poll, taken in early June and published in the weekly magazine *Paris-Match*, indicates a significant fall in the percentage of the electorate intending to vote for M. Giscard, if he runs for a second term next spring.

If he were running in the first round against M. François Mitterrand, the Socialist leader, M. Georges Marchais for the Communists, M. Jacques Chirac for the Gaullists, and M. Michel Rocard as an independent, Giscard would win about 35 per cent of the popular vote. This compares with 39 per cent in a poll taken in April.

Faced with M. Rocard, M. Marchais and M. Chirac in the first round, the percentage of voters intending to opt for M. Giscard would be only 33 per cent; against 35 per cent in the previous poll.

But the most striking findings were that, in the crucial second ballot, when only the two leading candidates in the first round are left to fight it out, President Giscard could be sure of winning only if the left-wing candidate were M. Mitterrand. In that case, he would obtain 54 per cent of the popular vote.

But if M. Rocard were running against him, the race would be virtually a dead heat, with each candidate obtaining about 50 per cent of the vote.

Though M. Rocard would represent the biggest threat to the President, he is by no means certain of nomination. The Socialists are still deeply divided between a majority which supports M. Mitterrand's candidature and a minority which backs M. Rocard. A final decision on the nomination is due until the end of the year.

# 'Africa's gendarme' hopes aid can replace intervention

BY DAVID WHITE IN PARIS

**FRENCH POLICY** in Africa is changing. Twenty years after most of its colonies won independence, France is looking for new props to shore up its influence on the continent.

In the meeting last month in Nice between President Giscard d'Estaing and representatives of 25 African countries, there were hints from the French side that France is to play the Good Samaritan to a wider range of needy countries. It will have to spend less time as the "Gendarme of Africa."

In the past few years, French forces have rallied to the defence of "moderate" African governments and provided the only effective Western counter-weight to Cuban-cum-Soviet intervention.

The climax of France's gendarme role was the Foreign Legion's successful parachute attack on rebels in southern Zaire two years ago. But the three French military actions since then have proved disappointing. In the first, French action was overtaken by events; in the second, it failed; in the third it has proved embarrassing.

Morocco's efforts to maintain control over the former Spanish Sahara began with France as an effective ally of the Moroccans and defending Mauritania against the Polisario rebels backed by Algeria. But a coup d'état in 1978 caused Mauritania to abandon its part of the disputed territory and this changed the alliance. The rebels' main concern was Angola and

"republique" is gaining increasing recognition and France has had to move swiftly to a position of neutrality.

In Chad, 1,100 French troops completed an orderly withdrawal from their isolated base outside N'Djamena, the capital, on May 17, having seen to the evacuation of European families. But the civil war between rival factions of the victorious rebel armies from the Moslem north of the country continues. France had been proclaiming its intention to pull out for over a year, judging the country to be dangerously over-militarised. In Nice, President Giscard put his foot down and said the troops were going and there was no new French initiative on its way.

Finally, M. David Dacko, the re-installed President, revealed that French troops had not come in to assist after the coup, as had been implied. Instead, the first 400 paratroopers had landed at the same time as he.

President Giscard does not like the word "intervention". At Nice he insisted that intervention was not part of France's policy, which he defined as "non-interference and solidarity." By solidarity, he meant that France would continue to respond to appeals from African countries. But he hoped the appeals would involve contributions to development rather than anything else.

In the mid-1970s, France's main concern was Angola and



A paratrooper on guard last month in N'Djamena shortly before all French troops were pulled out of Chad.

the progress of the Soviet Union and Cuba on the continent. French Equatorial Africa while there are fears for the stability of Zaire and certain "moderate" states of more complex.

The Chad conflict is having an unsettling effect on the rest of Senegal is in deep economic

trouble while an unsuccessful putsch against President Houphouët-Boigny of the Ivory Coast merely underlined doubts about his succession. But the Nice meeting showed the French at least as anxious to woo "progressive" states such as Benin and Congo, who are opposed to intervention on principle, as the "moderate" stalwarts.

France has widened the scope of the meetings since President Pompidou launched them in 1973. At Nice, there were 25 African countries represented, 14 by their heads of state. The group has taken in not only Zaïre and other former Belgian colonies, but also the smaller ex-Portuguese and ex-Spanish states and two Commonwealth members, Mauritius and Sierra Leone. But there are important absences, including Guinea, Cameroon and Madagascar.

What the African countries wanted more urgently in Nice was French aid and French support in securing more stable commodity prices and a liberal application of the Lomé II trade pact with the EEC. Paris has promised more funds. The budget of its Co-operation Ministry, which handles the bulk of French aid to Africa, has been raised 23 per cent this year to FF 4.3bn (£500m).

France has 150,000 citizens living in Africa and over 7,000 troops on the continent. It also has large interests in mineral exploration, oil operations, public works, telecommunications and cars and its trade surplus has been rising.

But mercantile concerns alone would not explain France's interest in maintaining an African lobby. M. Giscard keeps a close eye on the continent and France's Africa policy has remained to a large extent the preserve of a series of presidential advisers.

With the rise in oil prices, the Nice collection of mostly minor African states relies more than ever on France's aid. By presenting himself as their natural protector, President Giscard manages to keep up the appearance that France's Africa policy is still going strong.

## Banks set their face against lending more to Turkey

BY DAVID TONGE

**THE WORLD'S** leading banks are resisting strongly suggestions that they should lend more money to Turkey. Next week, Western governments meet in Paris to discuss rescheduling about \$3bn of Ankara's official debts, as well as some past debts which have been rolled over once before. Then, they believe, it will be the banks' turn to pull their weight.

But a number of leading U.S. and European bankers say there is no question at present of them raising fresh medium-term funds to help Turkey through its continuing crisis. They say they will continue to build up their short-term exposure to Turkey on revolving acceptance credits. Increasing these helps both our exporters and Turkey," in the words of one banker.

ing that the term should be changed to 10 years.

However, forcefully the banks put their view, government officials say they are keeping in touch closely with the banks and hope, by leading and pushing, to encourage them to follow the example Western governments hope to set next week.

Next Wednesday, the IMF is expected to approve formally a three-year stand-by agreement for 1.25bn Special Drawing Rights (\$1.65bn). And between Tuesday and Thursday, Western governments are to hold a crucial meeting under the aegis of the OECD, to tackle the thorny problem of official and guaranteed debt.

These debts, like the \$2.3bn of official and government-guaranteed debt rescheduled in 1978 and 1979, are to be paid back over seven years. Turkey is known to be thinking of ask-

ing for \$1.1bn worth of debt falling due in the year to this June. However, only one-third of the bilateral agreements necessary to implement this multilateral deal have been concluded.

OECD members have put together major aid packages for Turkey, including one of \$1.16bn in April, but Ankara has had problems in meeting payments due on the debt which has been rolled over.

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The OECD is keen to see a three-year programme concluded which will run in parallel with the expected IMF stand-by agreement.

The radical measures announced by the government of Mr. Suleyman Demirel in January—which included opening the country to foreign investment and competition, abolishing price controls, and devaluing the lira—have won widespread Western praise.

They have been followed by more measures to liberalise the economy.

Turkish banks are now to be allowed to set their own interest rates. Possessors of fortunes made from the black market will be allowed to deposit them with the banks without questions being asked.

The red tape surrounding exports has been further unravelled.

None the less, some Western governments are worried about how far all these measures will be implemented and how much they can alter the underlying

situation. Inflation has reached levels of over 80 per cent, and this year's current account deficit could reach \$4bn.

There is concern, too, over the viability of Mr. Demirel's minority administration, as there is about the level of political violence and killing.

A report by Amnesty International that "most people now being arrested by police and martial law authorities" are being subjected to torture has increased the anxiety.

The Turkish Government says that the black markets in foreign exchange and many goods have been largely eliminated. In the autumn, an OECD team is expected to visit Turkey to review progress.

Western officials say that with the benefit of hindsight the previous reschedulings of

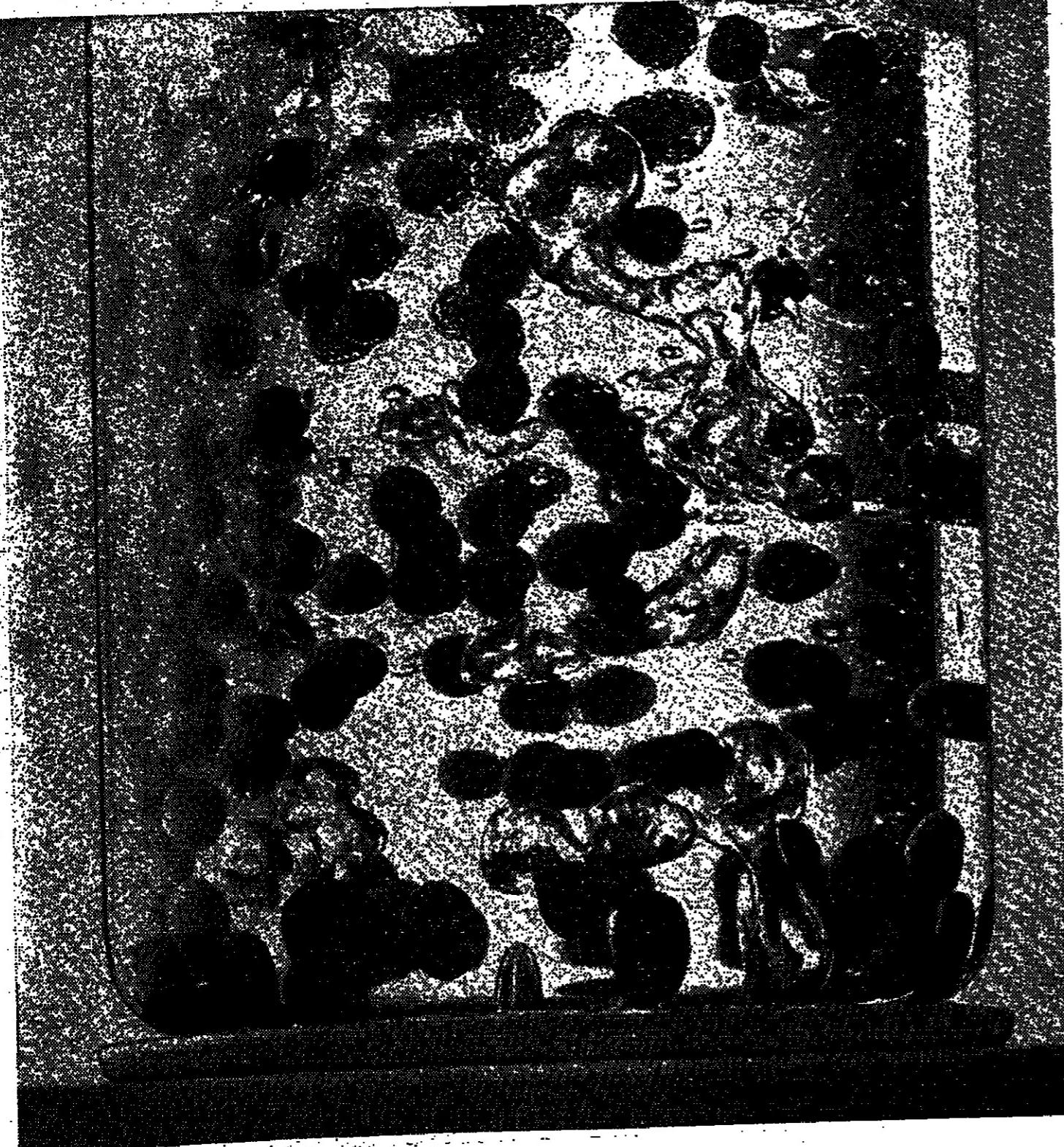
Turkish debt were done on terms which were too tough and "not very realistic." Some complain that the banks are "behaving like daisies" and that "it is not possible to let them off the hook."

The banks express sympathy with the Turkish Government and say that each time it seems about to succeed it is "fattened" by an increase in its oil bill.

They also admit that this is a general problem affecting many developing countries. But, they say, this does not make it any easier to persuade their auditors or shareholders that they should increase their lending to Turkey.

Says one banker: "An IMF agreement and a major rescheduling by Western governments will all help, but the main point for us is that there must be progress on the ground."

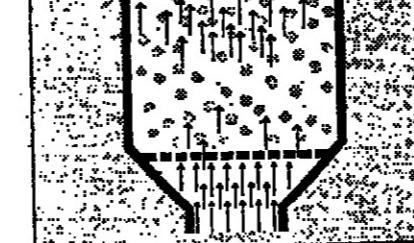
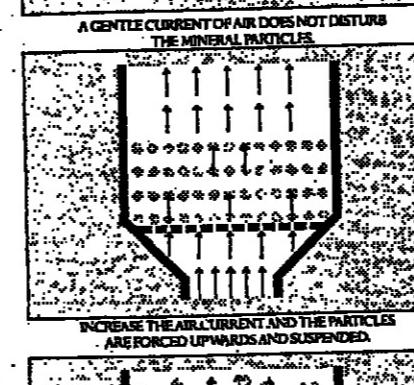
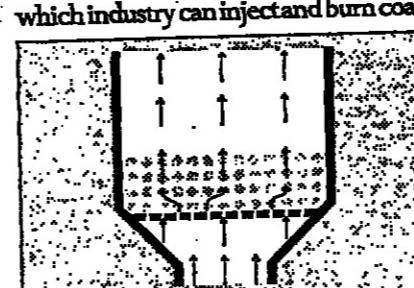
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## OVERSEAS NEWS

The balancing act required from Zimbabwe's Prime Minister after 100 days in office is examined by Tony Hawkins in Salisbury

# Mugabe's crises of expectation—from whites and blacks

**IN HIS FIRST 100 days in office as Prime Minister of Zimbabwe, Mr. Robert Mugabe has successfully walked the tightrope separating black aspirations from white fears. But as every day goes by, the difficulties of maintaining this delicate balance increase.**

At the root of his problems lie two conflicting, and to some extent mutually exclusive, crises of expectations. As Mr. Mugabe takes stock of his position he must be acutely aware of the danger that his tightrope act will leave him isolated in no-man's land surrounded by disappointed blacks on one hand and demoralised whites on the other.

That there would be a crisis of black expectations whenever won the elections was obvious from the moment the Lancaster House agreement was signed. All parties promised a major improvement in the lot of the country's 7.2m blacks; more and better paid jobs, more and better housing, more land, free health and education, a state-financed pension scheme and so on.

Add to these promises the formidable task of rehabilitation and reconstruction of the rural economy after seven years of debilitating guerrilla war and the need to make good the backlog in both private and public sector investment that developed during the 15 years of economic sanctions, and it is all too apparent that for many blacks expectations are going to remain unfulfilled.

Even if the economy were to manage a 6 per cent real growth rate through the 1980s it would still take until 1991 to regain the level of real income per capita achieved at the peak of the UDI boom in 1972.

For the whites the crisis of expectation is largely of their own making. During the years of war and sanctions, the business community in particular, convinced itself that if only legal independence could be negotiated, as it was at Lancaster House, the country would attract unprecedented foreign



Robert Mugabe: not a foot wrong

aid and foreign investment while the mere act of ending sanctions would stimulate a sustained economic boom.

But in the three months since the elections, businessmen have increasingly come round to the view that their hopes were unrealistic, for three main reasons.

First, they exaggerated the likely levels of aid.

Although British officials are claiming that the actual amount of aid over could well, over a three year period, come within hailing distance of the \$1bn promised by Dr. Henry Kissinger in 1976,

this argument is hardly convincing when the needs of the new Zimbabwe and inflation are taken into account.

Secondly, Zimbabweans are unhappy at the form the aid is likely to take. What Zimbabwe needs desperately is cash inflows but the bulk of the aid on offer is externally-supplied technical expertise.

The third reason for disappointment—and in many respects the most serious—is that very little private sector foreign investment has so far been promised. Until the announcement

that France and West German manufacturers and banks were to supply Z\$ 120m credits for the Wankie thermal power station, the only other publicised foreign investment was the \$5m promised by Rio Tinto-Zinc. Numbers of foreign businessmen have visited Zimbabwe and expressed interest but, more often than not, they have left with a "wait and see" attitude. Most are waiting at least until next month's budget.

There is little doubt that investor sentiment—both at home and abroad—is being adversely affected by what Mr. David Smith, Minister of Commerce and Industry, calls "the hot air" in the media. This is a reference in the main to the radio and television commentaries on the Zimbabwe network, espousing socialism and African liberation and scathingly critical of past regimes in Zimbabwe.

armies—Mr. Mugabe's Zanla, Mr. Nkomo's ZIPRA and the Rhodesian security forces—into a single national army is not making satisfactory progress.

So far a mere 1,200 of the 38,000 guerrillas have been selected for training.

Also little progress has been made in persuading substantial numbers of the guerrillas in the camps to revert to civilian occupations. It is argued in Salisbury that the country needs no more than 15,000 men

so that more than 20,000 guerrillas will need employment. In addition, a substantial number of the former Rhodesian forces would have to be found jobs elsewhere.

Against this background, it appears that white morale, and business morale, has deteriorated since the independence celebrations nearly two months ago. White Zimbabweans have a talent for persuading themselves that nothing will really change. But change is taking place and much more is to come. The decision to provide accelerated advancement for blacks within the Civil Service, even where this means supervising white officials, with better experience and qualifications, while predictable, has shattered the "no change" illusion. It will lead both to a significant outflow of whites

from public sector employment and from the country. It has worried the Government enough for Mr. Gmos Nkala, the Finance Minister, to say that the Government might be forced to abolish the incentive scheme offering higher pensions and free remittances to civil servants who opt to leave.

Although the rate of white emigration from Zimbabwe is running well below the levels of a year ago—4,200 left in the first four months of 1980 as against 5,300 in the same period last year—it has picked up considerably from the last quarter of last year when the monthly outflow averaged 700. Current estimates suggest that there will be very heavy outflow of whites in the final months of 1980 with the annual outflow being forecast at more than the 1978 total of 16,500.

In the short run, the significance of white emigration is primarily economic. White agricultural skills are crucial in respect of land resettlement and food programmes. The Government has purchased more than 80 vacant farms from white farmers totalling 321,230 acres for resettlement of refugees, former guerrillas and tribal farmers needing extra land.

The much-needed decline in security expenditure is taking place at a far slower rate. Last year the war was absorbing 41 per cent of the budget and in

programme to succeed, especially as available land and capital is vital. On current trends, the skills constraint is likely to be more severe than that of land or funds.

Two other important areas—industrial relations and finance—have also been crucial in the early days of Mr. Mugabe's Government. The labour situation itself is a microcosm of the equity versus growth trade-off that is at the heart of the Government's decision-making problems in the economy. The Government has been accused by the grassroots of failing between two stools and on taking office the administration faced a rash of wildcat strikes in which the fundamental grievance was pay.

In many of the strikes, Mr. Kumbirai Kangai, the Minister of Labour, or his deputy, intervened to get workers back to work, promising that their grievances would be investigated. The outcome was a national minimum wage in commerce, industry and mining of Z\$70 a month (\$48) and of Z\$80 a month (\$20) in private domestic service and agriculture. Not only is the Z\$70 below the Poverty Datum Line figure calculated nine months ago by the University of Zimbabwe, which is over Z\$100 a month. It was also well below what the workers themselves had been anticipating.

The pill was sugar-coated for the disappointed workers by a promise that the minimum in commerce, industry and mining would rise to Z\$85 (\$58) on January 1, 1981, while in private domestic service and agriculture, wages and other conditions of service such as rations, accommodation and clothing will be investigated by a government commission. In addition, from July 1, it will be an offence to sack anyone purely because of the minimum wage (though this will be difficult to police) and the government has committed itself to a prices freeze on essential goods.

But for the land resettlement programme to succeed, there is precious little room for manoeuvre on the budget front. It is estimated that in the fiscal year ending on June 30, the budget deficit will be of the order of Z\$550m to Z\$600m (\$375m to \$410m). Indeed, the deficit is roughly half the total national budget expenditure of Z\$1.2bn (\$820m).

Immediately on taking office Mr. Nkala reduced the rate of general sales tax from 15 per cent to 10 per cent and, at the same time, exempted sugar, tea, margarine and cooking oil from the tax altogether. In a full year, these moves will cost the exchequer Z\$65m (\$45m) or about 10 per cent of the total tax revenue base as it now stands.

He has recouped some of this with higher duties on drink, tobacco and betting. But the budget deficit remains formidable since although state spending on social services, such as re-distribution and social policies against private investment, both domestic and foreign. But if the Cabinet stays too far one way or the other, from the middle ground it now finds, it runs the risk of being overwhelmed by the formidable problems it is encountering on all sides.



Joshua Nkomo: the junior partner

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theory, there should be scope for a massive switch of resources in favour of productive state expenditure. But with more than 35,000 guerrillas still in the camps, with continuing outbreaks of banditry and terrorism by dissident former guerrillas in parts of the country, and with some units of the forces being deployed in the south-east, to assist Frelimo against Mozambique's dissidents, it is clear that the rundown in military spending is going to be slower than was hoped.

In the past, the substantial budget deficit was funded by heavy domestic capital imports borrowed on the one-hand and external borrowing on the other. With South Africa's help ruled out—not because Pretoria would not lend but because it will only lend to companies that would be politically embarrassing for Mr. Mugabe and with only one government willing to offer budgetary aid, it looks as though Mr. Nkala will be forced to rely more than ever on local market borrowing, some resort to the Euromarkets and higher taxes or a broader tax base at home.

Given the Government's commitment to income and wealth redistribution and the 400,000 500,000 black school-leavers who have failed to find jobs in the past five years, the obvious need is for a strategy of growth with re-distribution as advocated by the World Bank. To achieve this, substantial foreign funds—mainly private—are required.

The private sector's current reluctance to invest could well be overcome after the July budget, provided that Mr. Mugabe and his senior Ministers continue to trade off redistribution and social policies against private investment, both domestic and foreign. But if the Cabinet stays too far one way or the other, from the middle ground it now finds, it runs the risk of being overwhelmed by the formidable problems it is encountering on all sides.

S. Africa poll planned for next year

SEOUL, South Korea's President, said yesterday that general elections would be held early next year and that power would be transferred to an elected administration by June 1981.

He said the imposition last month of full martial law, as well as the creation of the military-dominated special committee for national security measures, would not hamper planned political development.

Speaking on television, President Choi said that as long as public order and social stability were achieved, colleges and universities would be reopened and political activities resumed.

Political activity was halted and higher educational establishments were closed after widespread student rioting in South Korean cities last month. At one stage rebellious students took over the provincial capital of Kwangju for a week before troops moved in.

Meanwhile, the Bank of Korea marked the won down to its lowest point ever against the U.S. dollar. This follows recent upheavals and the U.S. currency's strength on the international market.

Bishop freed

PERKING—Bishop Deng Yining of Canton, who refused to break with the Vatican when a Government-backed Chinese church was set up, has been freed after 22 years in prison.

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TORONTO DOMINION BANK APPOINTMENT



A DOUGLASKING

Toronto Dominion Bank announces the appointment of A. Douglas King as Vice-President and General Manager, Europe, Middle East and Africa Division, International Banking Group. Mr. King has served in positions of increasing responsibility in New York, Hong Kong, Singapore and Head Office and was previously Vice-President and General Manager, Canada Division. He is now based in London, England.

## Allies at odds over rebel isle

BY QUENTIN PEEL IN JOHANNESBURG

A DAY after Britain decided that the situation in the New Hebrides required the despatch of 200 marines, France announced yesterday that it considered the islands to be calm and would withdraw 60 gendarmes sent in on Wednesday.

The French move brought into the open the differences between the two countries over how to handle their rebellious Pacific condominium. It shocked the New Hebrides government of Father Walter Lini, which said that the blame for any unrest before the arrival of the British marines on Saturday would lie with the French.

Two weeks ago the northern island of Espiritu Santo seceded from the New Hebrides and on Tuesday islanders in Tanna tried to follow suit, leading to a death of an opposition politician.

France said yesterday that it believed that a compromise solution was required and it was necessary to avoid giving the impression that an iron military hand was being used to tackle the "bow-and-arrow" revolt.

London tried to play down the apparent disagreement, saying that Whitehall had been consulted about the French departure. The gendarmes would be within three hours flight of the New Hebrides.

Asked about remarks by a senior Iranian official, Mr. Sadeq

## S. African economy 'buoyant'

BY QUENTIN PEEL IN JOHANNESBURG

GROWTH OF the South African economy is likely to exceed budget forecasts and be the best this year since 1974. Senator Owen Horwood, the Minister of Finance, said yesterday.

The Finance Minister's growth forecast is slightly more conservative than the latest by the Standard Bank, which predicted a growth rate of some 6 per cent, with significant improvement in such areas as retail sales, car sales and building activity.

Senator Horwood also announced yesterday that plans to introduce a tax on fringe benefits before the end of the parliamentary session this week had been abandoned. There will be further consultation with all sections of commerce and industry over the measure.

Senator Horwood said conditions in most sectors of the economy were distinctly

bouyant. Although real fixed investment had still not risen adequately, it shows every sign of moving ahead rapidly.

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The proposed law is the first clear measure introduced by the South African Government since the Sasol sabotage, which destroyed fuel and storage tanks worth R5.6m (\$3.12m).

In Tehran, the state radio reported that a counter-revolutionary organisation within the Army had been uncovered in Kurdistan. Several members of the group would go on trial next month, the radio said.

It said the organisation known as Barazand (Over-

throw), was based in the Kurdish town of Piranshahr, close to the border with Iraq.

The radio said 11 people had been arrested, but the newspaper Kayhan quoted Hojatoleslam Mohammadi. Reyskharli, head of the army revolutionary courts, as saying that six people had been held in connection with an alleged plot to replace Iran's Islamic government with a democratic one.

Hojatoleslam Reyskharli was quoted as identifying those arrested as a major, a lieutenant, three warrant officers and a sergeant.

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## VIETNAM AND ASEAN

Hopes fade for Kampuchean accord

BY NAYAN CHANDA, RECENTLY IN KUALA LUMPUR AND BANGKOK

WITH DARK monsoon clouds now rolling over Indo-China, the time for yet another Vietnamese dry-season offensive in Kampuchea is over. But a season of diplomatic manoeuvring has begun in earnest, and while Hanoi's 200,000 troops and several thousand cadres consolidate its client regime's control over Kampuchea, Mr. Nguyen Co Thach, the Vietnamese Foreign Minister, has launched a "peace offensive" among Vietnam's ASEAN neighbours—Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia and the Philippines.

Hopes of a compromise move by Hanoi were raised ahead of Mr. Thach's visit to Malaysia and Thailand in May, the first since the toppling of the Pol Pot regime in Kampuchea in January last year. As one ASEAN diplomat put it: "If the Vietnamese want to repeat the claim that the Kampuchean situation is irreversible and non-negotiable there would be no point in sending their foreign minister to ASEAN."

For its part, Peking was concerned enough by the conciliatory mood of Indonesia and Malaysia and by hints of flexibility from Gen. Teng Sisamouth's new government in Thailand to issue a public warning against compromising with Hanoi.

By the time the trip ended, however, the general conclusion

Kampuchea more acceptable or as some diplomats suspect, to exploit differences between ASEAN members.

Mr. Thach told the Malaysians that an election would be held in Kampuchea and, while UN observers would not be welcome, ASEAN could send representatives from, say, Malaysia and Indonesia. Joint teams of ASEAN and Indo-chinese observers could also monitor the Thai-Kampuchean border.

Before Mr. Thach embarked on his trip Soviet and Cuban diplomats had passed word that Hanoi might be willing to broaden the Heng Samrin regime in Kampuchea by including some non-Communists. It might also withdraw some troops if Thailand stopped offering sanctuary to former Rouge fighters of the former Kampuchean regime and stopped allowing Chinese arms to pass across Thailand to their bases.

These suggestions impressed the Malaysians but failed to move the suspicious Thais. Thailand will not accept elections supervised solely by the Malaysians and Indonesians and has insisted that the UN should monitor the border.

Above all, Thailand wants an international agreement and supervision of the withdrawal of troops, and not simply a Vietnamese promise.

## WORLD TRADE NEWS

## Japanese back plan to resume work at Iran chemical plant

By CHARLES SMITH, FAR EAST EDITOR, IN TOKYO

TOP EXECUTIVES of five major Japanese companies participating in the \$3bn Bandar Khomeini (£1.3bn) petrochemical project in southern Iran yesterday gave their blessing to a "formula" for the resumption of work on the project.

The formula was worked out last month by Mr. Etsuo Yamashita, president of the Japanese-owned Iran Chemical Development Corporation and Dr. A. K. Kouhyar, the Iranian official in charge of the project. It provides for work to be resumed in full before the end of this year and for the last of the 13 units at the complex to come on stream by mid-1982.

Resumption, however, is still conditional on the settlement of disputes between the Iranian authorities and the 28 Japanese contractors involved in the project. These disputes will be the subject of direct talks between the companies concerned and an Iranian mission, headed by Dr. Kouhyar, which is due in Tokyo tomorrow.

After the conclusion of "general" talks between Mr. Yamashita and Dr. Kouhyar in Tehran last month, Iran asked the Japanese contractors to "present themselves" at Bandar Khomeini for an on-the-spot inspection of the complex and for talks on financial and other problems arising from the 14-month suspension of work on the project. The Iranian side indicated that failure by

## British Steel in big Korea deal

By Our World Trade Staff

THE BRITISH Steel Corporation has won a major order to supply 60,000 tonnes of steel to South Korea for the third and fourth extensions of the Seoul subway, to be shipped over the next year.

Although BSC would give no details of the value of the order, Lloyds Bank International is providing supplier credit, backed by the Export Credits Guarantee Department, to the Seoul Metropolitan Government at terms yet to be disclosed. Lloyds will finance the loan through the Eurodollar market for a further five years on the date due.

BSC said that the order, which follows one for 6,000 tonnes of steel two years ago for the same project, was for medium and heavy steel sections, which would be made at Scunthorpe and Teesside.

Lloyds has also received a mandate from South Korea's Economic Planning Board (EPB) to seek further loan through the Eurodollar market to cover supply of steel plate for the subway extensions. The loan will be placed through the London market. The successful tenderers for the supply of the steel plate have not yet been disclosed.

## UK trade officials differ in protection debate

By PAUL CHEESERIGHT

THE UK debate on the merits of international free trade came into sharper focus yesterday when Government and Opposition officials differed on what degree of protection should be given to local industry.

But both sides turned firmly against the ideas of Mr. Wynne Godley and the Cambridge Economic Policy Group: high tariffs and tax cuts to stimulate the economy.

It is a lunatic notion, argued Mr. Cecil Parkinson, Minister of State for Trade, that a nation which is more dependent on trade than any other should put up the shams. But he accepted the case for restraints in the face of dumped imports and cited the restrictions placed on U.S. synthetic fibres.

Partly it arose from traditionally different conceptions of the Government's role in the economy—whether, in fact, the Government should play a directing role in economic recovery.

But both Mr. Parkinson and Mr. Smith were highly conscious of the UK position in a range

of international organisations. This cuts the scope for individual action, and it was noticeable that Mr. Smith was looking for ways to make the present system work better, as far as the UK is concerned, and to circumvent it.

This difference in policy emphasis was reiterated at a London conference organised by Westminster and City Programmes. Partly it arose from different conceptions of what industry can stand in the face of recession and gathering competition.

Mr. Parkinson seemed content with the present structure of the UK's trading relations.

As he noted, 40 per cent of the UK trade is with the EEC, and

this is where exports are growing fastest. If the rest of the European market and North America are added on, this accounts for 75 per cent of UK trade.

The structure of UK trade and the country's treaty obligations are major difficulties for those who argue in favour of protectionism, he said.

Certainly this sort of view is music to the ears of the EEC Commission and officials at the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT).

The position of the EEC is that selective import controls are absolutely a last resort and it is unlikely that any EEC member would be allowed to protect industry on a large scale while imports into other EEC countries remain free.

GATT fears that controls will provoke retaliation and that, if one leading country swings a blessing in disguise.

decisively towards protection, the international trading order would be catastrophically undermined.

And both GATT and EEC carefully note that the UK's problems are not unique. What is unique about the UK is low productivity and a highly valued currency.

And that brings the argument round full circle. As Mr. Smith put it, and Mr. Parkinson would no doubt agree, questions of increasing productivity and sustaining investment will not be tackled by imports policy or altering the terms of trade.

Mr. Parkinson was prepared to make a virtue of what many see as misfortune. Exports have not collapsed in the face of a strong pound and if more British exporters are forced to move up-market, then the strength of the pound could be a blessing in disguise.

## Hong Kong seeking investment

By David Dodwell in Hong Kong

THE HONG KONG Government plans to post representatives abroad with a specific brief to encourage overseas companies to set up a manufacturing base in the Colony.

This marks a significant departure from the traditional economic growth strategy adopted by the Government—that of promoting trade as the primary catalyst for growth.

A senior official at the Department of Trade, Industry and Customs revealed plans to appoint permanent representatives to four areas—the U.S., Japan, Britain and the EEC—with a specific brief to encourage inward industrial investment.

Until now, the preoccupation with trade promotion has meant that a total of 20 trade development councils have been set up around the world. Staff in these councils, on top of their trade promotion work had an informal brief to promote inward investment, but it is now recognised that such an informal brief is no longer sufficient.

The growth strategies of Hong Kong and Singapore have been contrasted over the past two decades by Hong Kong's reliance on export promotion and Singapore's emphasis on attracting manufacturing investment.

This was natural at the time, in that Hong Kong already had a strong manufacturing base and was most concerned with finding markets for their output. Singapore did not have such an established base, and consequently put emphasis on creating one.

The new move shows that the Hong Kong authorities attach increasing importance to the need to upgrade the Colony's manufacturing base, attract new industries and diversify its economic activities.

## Fokker sells jets to Bangladesh

By Charles Batchelor in Amsterdam

FOKKER has announced the sale of three F-27 and F-28 aircraft to airlines in the U.S. and Bangladesh. It has also reached agreement with a U.S. company which will maintain a spares distribution centre to meet expected demand there.

Fokker will deliver two 85-seat F-28 Mark 4000 fan jets to Bangladesh Biman, the national airline, in December, 1981, and April, 1982.

Mississippi Valley Airlines, a U.S. commuter carrier, has converted its option on one 50-seat F-27 Mark 500 turboprop into a firm order bringing its order book to four aircraft.

Fokker has signed a contract with E-Systems of Texas for the U.S. company to set up and maintain a spares stock and distribution centre.

### Fuel efficiency

The Dutch group later plans to establish a network of resident field engineers at locations close to its customers. Five U.S. airlines have recently bought Fokker aircraft and several others have expressed strong interest.

• SAAB-Scania of Sweden and Fairchild Industries of the U.S., who are jointly developing a new 34-seat passenger commuter aircraft, have chosen General Electric to produce the power units. John Walker writes from Stockholm.

The GE engine will be the CT-7, a new technology, fuel-efficient turboprop power plant providing the latest advantages in turboprop reliability. Consumption is about 5.15 per cent lower than that of competing engines evaluated.

The manufacture of the new aircraft will be shared by SAAB-Scania and Fairchild, with the wings and ancillary equipment being built in the U.S. and the production of the fuselage and final assembly in Sweden.

## ROUND OFF YOUR INVESTMENT PORTFOLIO WITH SOLID GOLD.

Consider the advantages of having part of your investments in the form of gold.

Apart from anything else it can be an excellent insurance against inflation.

Although in the short term its price can go down as well as up, historically gold, unlike money, has held its value.

It's international, and held as a reserve by virtually every country in the world.

So there's a lot to be said for owning a certain amount of gold.

The really bright way to buy it is in the form of beautiful gold coins called Krugerrands.

Each one contains exactly one troy ounce of pure gold.

And although you can now legally buy gold bullion, Krugerrands are still the best value because they're not subject to 15% VAT.

What's more, because they only carry a minimal premium over the gold price (usually between 5% and 8%) to cover minting and distribution costs,

they are still the most economical way to buy gold.

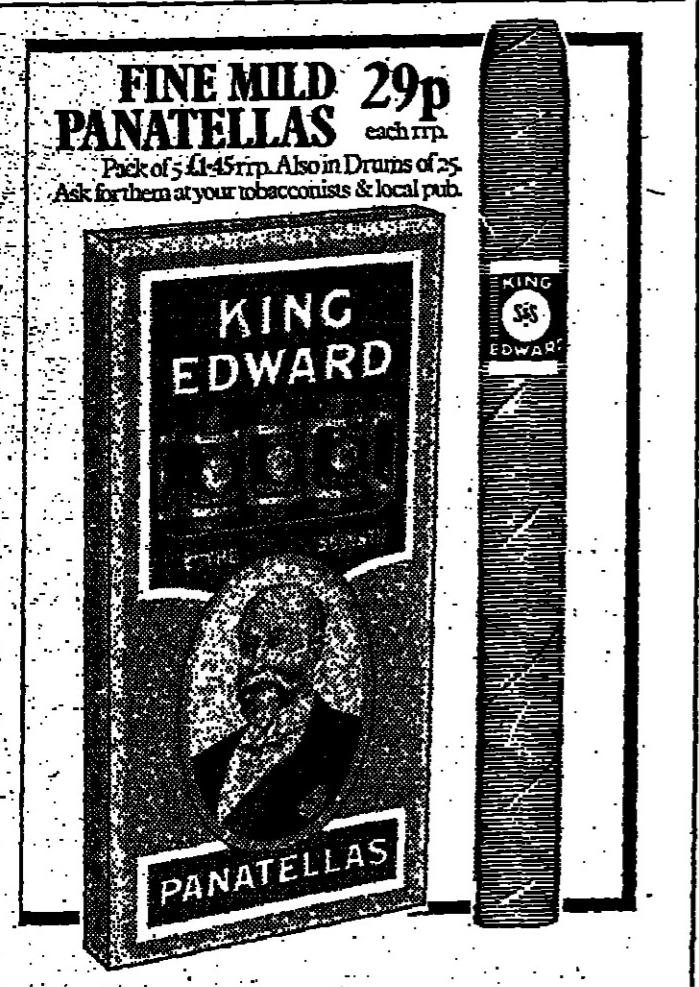
And you can buy as many of these beautiful gold bullion coins as you like. Most banks can supply Krugerrands and you simply pay with cash or a cheque. It's easy.

We'd hardly suggest that you give up all your other investments and buy Krugerrands.

But it might be a safe idea to make gold part of your portfolio.

As history has shown, in the long run it can do you a lot of good.

Go to your bank or ask your broker about buying Krugerrands.



**KRUGERRAND**  
The world's best way to own gold

## AMERICAN NEWS

# Chrysler cash injection likely next week

BY IAN HARGREAVES IN NEW YORK

**CHRYSLER** and the U.S. Treasury hope to complete detailed negotiations and documentation of the rescue programme for the ailing motor company next week.

The Treasury said yesterday that after consultations with Chrysler, it expected to be able to authorise the sale of the first \$500m (£213m) of Government-backed loan notes next week, providing a rapid injection of cash into the company. On Wednesday, Chrysler announced that it had halted all payments to suppliers because of its rapidly dwindling cash reserves.

Apart from the volume of documentation involved, the Treasury still has to find a way of whipping into line the remaining banks which are refusing to participate in its \$3.5bn rescue programme.

The U.S. Treasury said that it had now won agreement from two more of the rebel banks, but it would not say which. It may still have an uphill fight with some of the rebels.

## Balanced U.S. budget 'economically impossible'

BY DAVID BUCHAN IN WASHINGTON

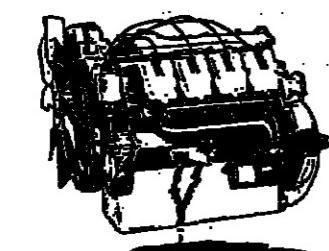
**THE SLUMP** in the U.S. economy is pushing the current federal budget deeper into the red and the prospect of balancing it in 1980-81 into the realms of economic impossibility, according to Administration officials.

This recognition has come as Capitol Hill and the White House seemed likely to resolve their dispute over the budget's preliminary spending ceiling.

The House of Representatives was due to vote late yesterday on the amended budget plan, which provides for slightly higher domestic expenditure on welfare programmes for those hurt by the recession in the coming year, and a notional trimming of defence spending

projections beyond 1981. Security-conscious Senators refused to agree to pare the previously agreed \$153.7bn figure for defence next year. If, however, enough liberals in the House accept the new package, the Administration, which had taken the House side in the budgetary argument, is expected to go along with the outcome.

Originally set at less than \$30bn, the current budget will probably be in the red by \$47bn, according to the latest Congressional projection. The chances of this being turned around next year are made even slimmer by the defeat last week by Congress of President Carter's plan for an oil import fee.



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### COMPANY NOTICE

#### BANQUE EXTERIEURE D'ALGERIE

SUS 25,000,000—9% 1972-1984

Holders of the above mentioned loan are hereby informed that the annual instalment of SUS 2,500,000—due August 1st, 1980 has been effected by bonds drawn by lot.

The drawing by lot took place on May 30th, 1980, in the presence of a notary public. The bonds remaining outstanding comprised between number 624 inclusive and number 4785 inclusive have been designated by lot and become redeemable at par on and after August 1st, 1980.

The principal amount of bonds outstanding after the amortisation of August 1st, 1980, will be SUS 12,500,000.

BANQUE INTERNATIONALE A LUXEMBOURG

Société Anonyme

Trustee

Luxembourg, June 13th, 1980

#### BANQUE DE PARIS ET DES PAYS-BAS

Floating Rate Note 1980 SUS 25,000,000

The interest rate applicable to the above loan in respect of six months' period of 183 days commencing 11 June 1980 has been fixed at 9% so that accordingly the interest payable in respect of such period (calculated on the basis of a year of 360 days for the actual number of days elapsed) will be made on 11 December 1980 at SUS 50,1979 per coupon.

The Fiscal Agent

BANQUE DE PARIS ET DES PAYS-BAS

POUR LE GRAND-DUCHÉ DE LUXEMBOURG

## Venezuela reactivates oil company tax claims

By Kim Fund in Caracas

**THE VENEZUELAN** Government is reactivating over \$1bn in tax claims against the recalcitrants to escape from the deal, but the question has become such an emotive issue with other American and foreign banks who have agreed to go along with the deal that it is becoming increasingly difficult for the company or the Treasury to contemplate such a manoeuvre. Kevin Done adds from Frankfurt: "The Deutsche Genossenschaftsbank confirmed yesterday that it had used money, reported to total \$8m, which had been paid into Chrysler's account at its New York branch, to pay off overdue loans it had previously made to the company. It dismissed allegations that it had "seized funds in transit to Chrysler," but admitted that it had taken action to liquidate Chrysler's debts to it."

The bank appears to be steadfastly resisting pressure to go along with the Chrysler rescue. If it is successful, other banks could insist on following.

## Balanced U.S. budget 'economically impossible'

BY DAVID BUCHAN IN WASHINGTON

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## THE WORLD BANK

# First stop starvation; then tackle growth

WHEN Mr. Robert McNamara took over as president in 1968, the World Bank group had a professional staff of 740 and each year was making loan commitments to \$4-5bn in today's money.

Since then the bank's staff has trebled and the value of its lending has more than doubled to \$11bn. Borrowings now total \$30bn, about \$10bn of that kept in liquid funds. But the changes of Mr. McNamara's time are ones of quality as much as of quantity.

The decision to reactivate the claims, partially suspended since 1977, was based on a joint Energy and Finance Ministry commission's recommendations as well as the announcement by one of the companies, Pure Oil, that it recognised the claims and would pay them.

"We are disappointed that the Government has decided it is not interested in an out-of-court settlement," one major company spokesman said. "But it's their right."

The companies headed by Exxon, Shell and Gulf, had earlier proposed a payment of \$135m to settle claims totalling \$400m, covering returns made between 1967 and 1975. At the same time, they rejected another \$800m in claims lodged against them in 1976 by the Venezuelan Comptroller General, stemming from a controversial interpretation of Venezuelan tax laws.

Immediately at stake is over \$375m, which forms part of a special fund the companies were forced to deposit with the Venezuelan Government to cover replacement or repair of the assets acquired by Venezuela in the compensated nationalisation of the oil industry in 1976, as well as pending commitments, such as the fax claims.

Mr. Moreno Leon said that the special fund would cover the normal tax claims but that the companies would be asked to put up additional financial guarantees to cover the Comptroller General's claims.

Late in 1979, the first of the Comptroller General's claims emerged from income tax courts, ordering American Petroleum to pay \$20,000. When the company appealed before the Supreme Court, its appeal was thrown out on procedural irregularities.

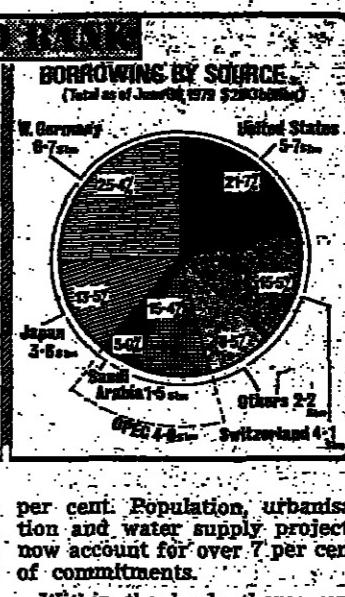
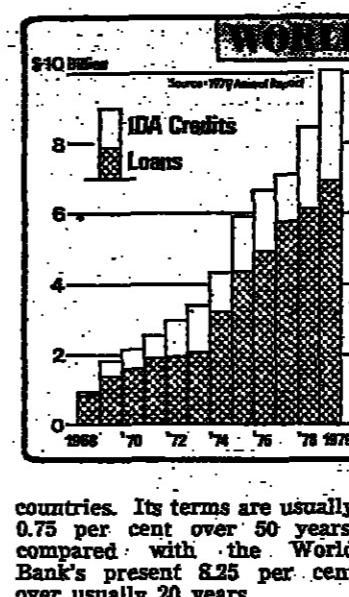
But Mr. Brock shows no willingness to go quietly. He was quoted yesterday as declaring that "I am operating under the assumption that I have the

development by concentrating on large projects in the Third World. Large capital-intensive projects, such as roads and power stations, would lead to increased growth, it was thought, and the benefits would "trickle down" to the poor.

In 1973, Mr. McNamara started to move the bank in a new direction. In a speech in Nairobi he launched a crusade stressing rural development and a just division of the fruits of growth. To make the small farmer into the instrument of progress—that would be the breakthrough of the century," he once said. Bank staff were beginning to learn not so much from India as from Pakistan.

There, political instability and the problems of distributing growth between regions and classes made it clear that growth by itself was not enough. Redistribution had to be assured. The bank started lending for population control and improving the environment.

Irrigation and the provision of seeds and fertilisers began to feature more prominently and two loans to Nigeria in 1974 totalled \$40m and boosted the incomes of 600,000 people. Indonesia received a \$63m credit for agricultural education from the International Development Association, the arm of the World Bank group which lends to the poorest



countries. Its terms are usually 0.75 per cent over 50 years, compared with the World Bank's present 8.25 per cent over usually 20 years.

The IDA contributed \$15m to a \$40m population project in Bangladesh, and loans were made to improve sanitation, housing and schools in such cities as Jakarta and Manila.

The change shows up in recent figures. Over half the loan commitments by the Bank and the IDA in the five years 1967-71 were for ports, roads and power. Today, that share has fallen to under a third. The proportion of loans going to agriculture has doubled from 17

per cent. Population, urbanisation and water supply projects now account for over 7 per cent of commitments.

Within the bank, there were changes. In 1968, half the staff came from only two countries, Britain and the U.S., while the developing countries provided a mere 19 per cent.

Today these shares are more equal (36 and 33 per cent) even if the developing countries, particularly the Arab states, complain they are not well represented in senior posts.

But by 1976, some limits to the Nairobi approach had become clear. There were general

problems caused by the quadrupling of oil prices two years earlier. But staff were disturbed for two other reasons. "The first difficulty was the sheer extent of poverty and the second was the slow implementation of rural development projects aimed to help redistribute income and growth," says Mr. Shahid Javed Burki, division chief for policy planning.

A fourth phase has begun. The new thrust is that only when people's basic needs are met can they help free themselves from poverty and contribute to the growth of their country. Some of Mr. McNamara's closer advisers have argued that the bank should work directly with the poor to meet the basic needs of education, nutrition, health care, shelter and water. Mr. Burki stresses the links between these needs and they will feature in the World Development Report which the World Bank is to release in August.

This year the bank has extended its armoury by agreeing to increase loans for what it calls "structural adjustments". The aim is to help developing countries adjust to changes in the international economy, slower growth in the industrialised world, high rates of inflation and soaring energy prices.

## Republican Party post the key to Reagan campaign

BY JUREK MARTIN, U.S. EDITOR IN WASHINGTON

**MR. RONALD REAGAN** could this weekend give a clear indication of the direction of his Presidential campaign when he decides whether or not to retain Mr. Bill Brock as chairman of the Republican Party.

The two men are due to confer in Los Angeles this afternoon amid clear signs that several influential members of Mr. Reagan's conservative inner circle want Mr. Brock, who is popular with party moderates, replaced by somebody more in tune with the candidate's thinking.

But Mr. Brock shows no willingness to go quietly. He was quoted yesterday as declaring that "I am operating under the assumption that I have the

younger breed of conservatives who have run the campaign since the sacking of Mr. John Sears, the pragmatic manager, last February, are less willing to compromise on ideological matters.

Their complaints against Mr. Brock are numerous: that he remained neutral in the primaries, that he would not devote party funds to help defeat the Panama Canal treaties, that he balked over removing two other senior party officials thought to be too liberal, that he was too quick to hire as advisers friends of Mr. Sears after they were purged in February.

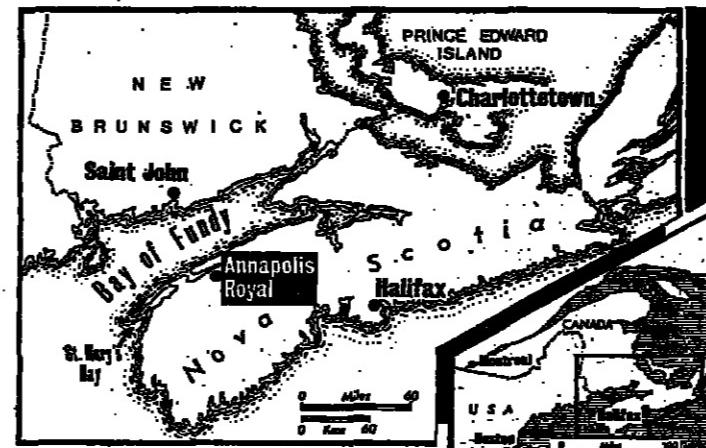
Mr. Brock's counter is that he is the servant of the Republican Party, not merely its Presidential nominee, and that the breadth of national political experience he can bring to bear, especially under new electoral rules, would be a valuable complement to the more limited electoral background of the Reagan staff.

In this respect, it might be recalled that one of the wiser decisions taken by then candidate Jimmy Carter in 1976 was to retain Democratic Party chairman Mr. Robert Strauss. Certainly, the Reagan campaign, which is still largely being managed out of Southern California, has shown signs of needing expert political handling. The most recent example of what could turn out to be a political error was Mr. Reagan's apparent assertion to the Egyptian Ambassador in Washington, Mr. Ashraf Ghorab, that he might modify his hitherto staunch pro-Israel attitudes. It was not so much what he may have said that caught the eye, but the fact that most of his senior staff had no idea that he had met Mr. Ghorab.

If he persuades Mr. Brock to give up the chairmanship, then that might make it much harder for Senator Howard Baker to accept second spot on the ticket if it is offered to him. Both Mr. Baker and Mr. Brock are from Tennessee and reasonably close personally and in beliefs.

BY LYNDON WATKINS IN HALIFAX

## Tidal power in the Bay of Fundy



where as many as three changes of direction take place as water passes through the powerhouse.

The principle is not new. It was first devised by a U.S. engineer, Leroy F. Harza, early this century. Escher Wyss subsequently built a number of small units which were installed in southern Germany and both the Swiss and English Electric undertook further development work in the 1960s and 1970s. English Electric's work was subsequently sold to the Swiss with certain safeguards for the British company, now GEC, at least in the field of related generator manufacture in the UK.

The major challenge to be overcome in the Annapolis prototype will be to design a unit of sufficient size and suitable for salt water operation, and to prevent water passing from turbine to generator. A water pressure system of hydrostatic bearings and seals will be used, allowing a constant, accurate tolerance between rotating and fixed components in the machine and eliminating the need for a centre generator shaft in the turbine.

Similarly, no attempt will be made to overcome the demonstrator unit's reliance on the lunar cycle of the tides. The twice daily tides there rotate on a 24 hour 50 minute cycle. For power to be available at high load demands of the solar day, the morning and evening rush hours, some form of retiming would be necessary.

Several possibilities have been considered. Tidal power could be used to pump water up to a reservoir, releasing it to run downhill and drive another turbine to deliver electricity at peak hours. Another possibility is that tidal power could be used to compress air and store it, which would then be used in a gas turbine driven generator. This would have an annual output of 400 megawatts or additional power.

Preliminary discussions on power sales have been held with the Power Authority of the State of New York. With a 2 per cent annual load growth it has an annual requirement of 400 megawatts of additional power.

Some people have suggested the tidal range might be affected by three feet or more, although a federal study found that differences of most of the economically developable sites would be minimal.

While a reduction in the height of the tides in the bay would reduce subsequent power generating capacity, the main problem lies in the rebound effect that this would have on other places along the Eastern Seaboard.

Low lying land in the U.S., including Boston Airport, might be flooded. A computerised tidal model has been developed and this is one of several areas of further tidal study that will be pursued as work on the Annapolis demonstration project gets under way this summer.

At present it is believed that up to four major sites can be developed without untoward effects.

For the many long-time advocates of tidal power who have "

# Why can't anyone overtake the Cortina?

Many a car has challenged the Cortina.

Many a car has fallen by the wayside. Why is it that no one can even approach its popularity, let alone overtake it?

It's a question of balance.

You might find one car that can match its speed, or another that can match its space, but when you look at the whole picture - fuel economy, service costs, parts, insurance, depreciation - no car is quite so completely satisfying.

That's the genius of the Cortina, and the engineers who designed it.

It's fast but it isn't thirsty.

It's economical to run, but it isn't dull to drive.

It handles well, but it doesn't have a hard uncomfortable ride.

As a piece of engineering it's perfectly balanced.

#### Who can keep up with it?

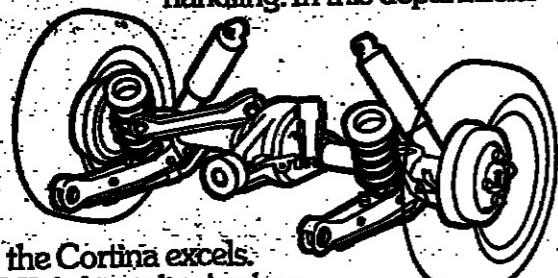
By no means everyone. The Cortina has more than enough acceleration to overtake quickly and decisively on country roads. And to cruise effortlessly at motorway speed limits.

	Max speed (mph)*	0-60 (sec)*
Cortina 1300 single venturi	87	16.1
Cortina 1600 single venturi	94	12.7
Cortina 1600 twin venturi	101	10.9
Cortina 2000 twin venturi	105	9.8
Cortina 2300 twin venturi	109	9.6

\*Ford computed performance figures for manual transmission saloons.

#### Speed isn't everything

It's no use having a high top speed if it isn't balanced by safe, predictable handling. In this department



the Cortina excels. With front disc brakes, heavy duty front anti-roll bar, and rear gas shock absorbers standard on all models. There's an optional 'S' pack to give sports car handling characteristics for the enthusiast.

#### Taking some of the labour out of servicing

Bulbs can be changed without tools.

Wheel bearings need no maintenance.

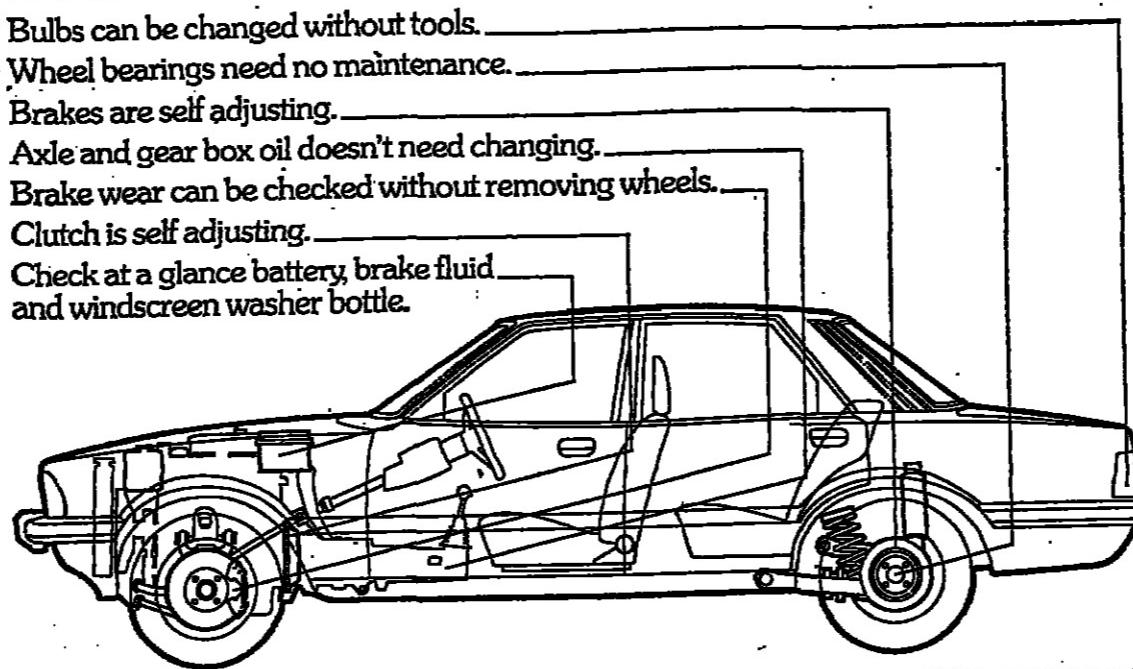
Brakes are self adjusting.

Axle and gear box oil doesn't need changing.

Brake wear can be checked without removing wheels.

Clutch is self adjusting.

Check at a glance battery, brake fluid and windscreen washer bottle.



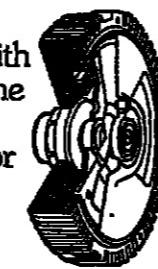
The Cortina only needs a full service once every 12,000 miles, with a minor service every 6,000 miles. Ford parts are moderately priced and the dealer network covers the country. How many cars of this size cost as little to keep on the road?

#### The economy carburettor

Ford have developed a new carburettor with a single variable venturi. In plain English, this automatically adjusts itself to provide the most economical fuel/air mixture whether you're stuck in traffic or cruising on the motorway.

#### The economy fan

All Cortinas are fitted with viscous coupled fans. When the car is going fast and there is enough air to cool the radiator by itself, the fan disengages. As a fan can consume as much as 5 horse power, this saves petrol and improves performance. The fan also helps the car warm-up faster in the morning, because it doesn't cut in until the engine is hot.



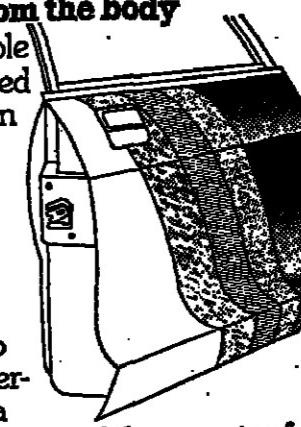
#### How many cars are this well equipped?

The specification of the Cortina Ghia includes: 1 Remote control door mirror. 2 Cut pile carpeting. 3 Rev. counter. 4 Cigar lighter. 5 3-speed heater fan. 6 Illuminated heater controls. 7 Two speed wipers with intermittent wipe and electric wash. 8 Centre console with radio/stereo cassette and quartz clock. 9 See through head restraints with detachable cushions. 10 Durham/crushed velour seat fabric. 11 Front and rear seat arm rests. 12 Tinted glass. 13 Trip recorder.

#### Keeping rust from the body

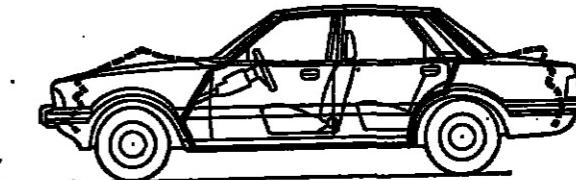
First the whole body shell is washed in an alkali solution and coated with zinc phosphate. Then it's totally immersed in anti-corrosive paint, using an electro-coating process to ensure 100% coverage. Then it gets a further coat of primer and three coats of tough enamel paint. All vulnerable areas like box sections and the insides of the doors are injected with wax. The wheel arches and vulnerable underbody areas are treated with chip resistant PVC coating. And the rear silencer is aluminised.

The Cortina is built to last.



#### Safety is built in

The Cortina protects you in a rigid steel cage, while the bonnet and boot are designed to crumple progressively and absorb the impact in the event of a collision.



#### Favourable terms

At last supply equals demand. So if you buy a new Cortina before the end of June, your Ford dealer is in a position to give you very favourable terms. Why not drop in and see him and get the full story.



FORD CORTINA



Ranges and prices. Cortina 1300 £3741. Cortina 1300 L £4080. Cortina 1600 LS £4737. Cortina 1600 GL £4933. Cortina 2000 GLS £5351. Cortina 1600 Ghia £5663. Cortina 2000 Ghia S £5902. Cortina 1600 Estate from £4530. The car illustrated is the Cortina Ghia.

Maximum prices as at 2nd June, 1980. Seat belts, car tax and VAT included. Delivery and number plates extra cost.

## UK NEWS

## Leyland opens truck plant

By John Griffiths

**LEYLAND VEHICLE'S** £22m truck assembly plant at Leyland, Lancashire, was yesterday opened by Lord Scamton.

It is part of a £350m investment programme by BL's truck and bus company. Since the start of this year it has been turning out the 38-40 tonne Roadtrain model of the new T45 truck range, on which the company is basing its hopes of a major market revival.

The plant will eventually be capable of building more than 400 heavy truck and bus chassis a week on a double shift.

It is being commissioned step by step. The next stage is to open a computerised components store within the next year.

### More workers on short time

**HOTPOINT'S** washing machine and tumble drier factory at Llandudno, North Wales, which employs 1,800, is to go on a three-day week from Monday and short-time working is to be introduced at its small domestic appliance factory at Swinton.

Avalon Furniture is putting all its 600 Avon employees on short time.

Heating appliance manufacturers, T. I. Parkray and T. I. Claw-Worm, of Belper, Derbyshire, have started a four-day working week.

### Asset stripping

**INVESTMENT** trusts are not a short-term investment medium, Mr. John Storar, chairman of the Association of Investment Trust Companies said yesterday. "I have little sympathy with the shareholder who shortly after his purchase starts clamouring for liquidation or unitisation. This seems to me just another form of asset stripping."

### Microchip talks

**PLESSEY** confirmed yesterday that it was negotiating with Mitel, the small Canadian telecommunications company, to acquire its advanced microchip technology ISO-CMDS. Production would begin in nine months.

## APPOINTMENTS

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# £134m loss forecast by London Transport

BY LYNTON MCALPIN

**LONDON TRANSPORT** has told the Greater London Council that it expects to lose about £134m in the year to December 1981.

As the world's largest public transport concern, LT is already rapidly losing passengers because of unacceptable high fares.

Members of the LT Executive think the predicted loss is unavoidable if inflation continues at its present high annual rate, if London Transport keeps its existing bus and train network and if the GLC refuses to increase its support.

At least £3m in revenue has already been lost because of rising passenger resistance to higher fares and violence on the tubes and buses. With the £15.7m deficit carried forward, this brings the total extra costs for London Transport this year to £98.7m.

## Commons report attacks EEC joint transport proposals

BY LYNTON MCALPIN

**PROPOSALS** by the European Commission for a common transport policy for members of the EEC have been attacked in a report of a Commons select committee on transport as "vague and unclear."

The proposals, in a memorandum on "The role of the Community in the development of transport infrastructure," were published in November.

But Mr. Tom Bradley, Labour

MP for Leicester East and chairman of the committee, said yesterday the proposals were "well-nigh impossible to understand". He said it was difficult to find out what the long-term effects would be for the EEC or Britain.

Transport was one of the four areas specifically defined in the Treaty of Rome as forming the "foundations of the Community."

However, Mr. Bradley said he was dismayed that the committee had failed to produce after nearly 20 years serious proposals for a co-ordinated transport network for the community.

*House of Commons First Report from the Transport Committee session 1979-80 "The European Commission's Green Paper on Transport Infrastructure." HMSO £3.50.*

## High prices for old clarets at Christie's

BY EDMUND PENNING-ROSELL AND ANTONY THORNCROFT

**THE RANGE** of old and rare clarets was exceptionally wide and the number of vintages represented unusually large in Christie's most important all-day wine sale of the season yesterday.

Rare single bottles fetched high prices. In brisk bidding most were bought by Americans. The top price was £3,300 for a single bottle of Lafite 1806, followed by £1,000 each for bottles of Mouton Rothschild 1853 and Lafite 1884.

Bottles of Lafite 1885 and 1868 made £680 and £400 respectively. An English buyer secured all £1,000 each two magnums of Lafite 1870 which in

the final draft of Gilbert White's *The Natural History of Selborne* is coming back to this country, to the Gilbert White Museum in the Hampshire village.

At Christie's yesterday the manuscript came under the hammer as part of the Arthur J. Houghton collection, and thanks to a campaign spearheaded by the museum, the villagers of Selborne and Lord Selborne, a bid of £100,000 secured it. A further 11.5 per cent must be paid in buyer's premium and VAT.

Since the manuscript had been in the U.S. since the 1920s, the Government had no power

to control its movement by export licence, and there was strong U.S. bidding to take it back across the Atlantic.

The final price was well above the £15,000-220,000 pre-sale forecasts, and stretched to the limit the financial resources of the museum, supplemented by hundreds of private donations, by Hampshire County Council, the Victoria and Albert Museum fund for the provinces, and the National Heritage Fund.

The Houghton collection, which covered all the main British writers between the 16th and 20th centuries, totalled £2,645,340.

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## Dividend clerk sought for BOURNEMOUTH

BY EDMUND PENNING-ROSELL

**STOCKBROKERS** have invited an experienced person, preferably under 35, to apply for the post of dividend clerk. Bournemouth offers a wide range of sporting/cultural activities also facilities for further education if required.

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Write Box A7198, Financial Times, 10 Cannon Street, EC4V 4EP.

H. F. Kepplinger, President and Chief Executive Officer of Kepplinger and Associates, Inc., will be in London the week of June 16th, for the purpose of establishing a London office.

Kepplinger and Associates, Inc., is a prestigious International Energy Consulting firm which is headquartered in Houston, Texas, with offices in Tulsa, Okla.; Denver, Colo.; Casper, Wyo.; Billings, Mont.; St. Martinville, La.; Dallas and Corpus Christi, Texas and Hong Kong.

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01-497 2924.

Notice to Holders of European Depositary Receipts (EDRS) in NIPPON SHINKIN COMPANY, LIMITED

The 33rd Ordinary General Meeting of Shareholders will be held on June 13, 1980.

Agenda:

1. Approval of the Statement and proposal for amortization of profit.

2. Allocation of dividends.

3. Resolution of the remuneration for the retiring Directors.

4. Resolution of the remuneration for the new Directors.

5. Resolution of the remuneration for the Auditors.

6. Resolution of the remuneration for the Depositary Agent.

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## UK NEWS

## Caledonian's engine plant wins first outside order

By RAY PERMAN, SCOTTISH CORRESPONDENT

THE FIRST order from an outside customer has been won by Caledonian Airtowtne, the engine refurbishing plant set up at Prestwick airport, Ayrshire, by British Caledonian Airways.

The £2m plant, to be formally opened by the Duke of Edinburgh next month, is designed to overhaul the General Electric T66 engine used in the DC-10 jumbo.

Although its initial workload will be almost entirely for British Caledonian, the plant's ultimate viability depends on outside work.

Mr Kelvin Kellaway, managing director, said yesterday that within three years the company hoped to be drawing three-quarters of its workload from other airlines.

**Encouraging**

"British Caledonian has a genuine point about the effect on us of losing the sole licence, but it would in no way be disastrous," he said.

Prestwick, jointly funded by British Caledonian and the Scottish Development Agency, employs 30 people and is expected to employ 250 within three years.

It is said to be the most modern of its type in Europe.

General Electric helped design the layout, supplied specialist tools and computer equipment and trained key personnel.

The U.S. company considers it essential for Europe to have engine servicing in Europe if it is to maintain its sales level.

The factory has laser and microprocessor-based inspection and measuring equipment, specially adapted machine tools and an X-ray scanner for testing welds to Civil Aviation Authority standards.

## More hospitals needed as BUPA numbers rise

By ERIC SHORT

A RECORD level of BUPA registrations has increased pressure on the medical insurance group's hospital building programme.

Sir Michael Milne-Watson, BUPA chairman, said yesterday that the number of subscribers had passed one million.

With 1,500 members included, the group now covers 2.5m people for private medical insurance, said Sir Michael.

But despite the hospital developments of the Nuffield Nursing Homes Trust and other independent hospital groups, Sir Michael said new private hospitals were needed to meet the increased demand.

Over 100,000 new subscribers had joined BUPA in 1979, he said.

BUPA's current hospital programme is to build association hospitals in selected strategic sites. Sir Michael said the programme had been in operation for a few years, commencing with the acquisition late in 1977 of the BUPA Manchester Hospital. This was now well on the way to being rebuilt as a modern 88-bed unit.

Last year BUPA bought the maternity hospital at Bushey, and had demolished the building to make way for a new 60-bed hospital.

BUPA established the Nuffield Nursing Home Trust in 1957 as a charity to build and operate private hospitals. It has provided strong financial assistance to the trust through donations and low interest loans. NNHT is now the largest

## EEC plans £42m aid for Ulster farmers

By Our Belfast Correspondent

THE EUROPEAN Council of Agriculture Ministers is expected to ratify next week a Commission proposal to spend £42m on farming improvement in Northern Ireland.

The largest amount, £35m, will be for farmers in the province's less-favoured areas. A further £7m will go to the egg and poultry sectors.

The aid is expected to be matched pound for pound by the Government through the Northern Ireland Agriculture Department.

In the worst-off areas, the money will be used to reclaim land, provide agricultural roads and buy fertilisers.

Mr Joseph Patton, president of the Ulster Farmers' Union, said the scheme was a long-term one, designed to improve farm viability through capital investment.

A substantial proportion of this investment would have to be provided by the farmers. The scheme's success would depend on their enthusiasm for doing so in the present economic climate.

The £7m for eggs and poultry will mean that processing and marketing improvements to increase sales can go ahead.

Mr John Hume, one of the province's three European MPs, has been campaigning for the funding for more than a year. He was confident the Agriculture Ministers would agree to the scheme, after approving similar proposals for other regions, including the west of Ireland.

## Gas 'is still cheaper in the home'

Financial Times Reporter

GAS WAS still cheaper than other domestic heating fuels and would maintain its competitive edge far into the future, Sir Denis Cooke, the chairman of British Gas, said yesterday.

He said recent reporting of fuel price rises in percentage terms might have led people to believe the price of gas now approached, or even exceeded, that of electricity or other fuels.

But latest British Gas figures showed central heating for the average three-bedroom semi would cost £340 a year using oil, £320 using electricity and £190 using gas.

While the retail price index had risen 240 per cent from 1970 to February 1980, the gas index had risen only 161 per cent. In 1965 the housewife could buy two thermals of gas for the price of a pound of butter. In the last financial year British Gas had been supplying to the domestic customer more than four thermals of gas for the price that would have been paid recently for a pound of butter.

The new book, to be published on November 10, will be the first authorised and comprehensive alternative service book.

## Synod firm on prayer book

THE CHURCH of England is to go ahead with publication of a modern prayer book in spite of a poll which suggested people prefer the traditional version.

The General Synod of the church said yesterday it believed more people wanted services updated than the poll indicated.

The new book, to be published on November 10, will be the first authorised and comprehensive alternative service book.

## Tax change

THE GOVERNMENT has agreed to grant widows the full income tax allowance of £270 in the year of their husband's death irrespective of the month of bereavement. Until now, a proportion has been allowed depending on the date of death.

## Electricity information criticised

By Martin Dickson, Energy Correspondent

INFORMATION published by the electricity supply industry is "less than adequate" to demonstrate that it is operating efficiently, according to the Electricity Consumers' Council.

The council, a Government-backed watchdog, called today for the industry to publish a broader range of performance indicators, "designed to be used by Government or Parliament or by consumers to assess how well the industry is meeting their needs and requirements."

Subjects covered by the indicators would include the reliability of energy supply, consumer attitudes to the industry, the efficiency of power stations and delays in power station construction.

The council noted that the sector had a turnover of more than £5bn in 1978-79 and said "a monopoly industry of this size and importance should not only be efficient but be seen to be efficient."

## Cancer unit for university

THE Cancer Research Campaign has granted £1.25m to establish an experimental cancer chemotherapy unit at Aston University's pharmacy department.

It will allow consolidation and development of research, including the strengthening of links with West Midlands cancer clinics and expansion of projects with researchers overseas. Initially, the grant will cover five years.

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## Weapon developments 'increase war risk'

BY DAVID FISHLOCK, SCIENCE EDITOR

THE GLOBAL stockpile of nuclear weapons exceeds 60,000, according to the latest annual report on the world's weapons from SIPRI, the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute.

New types of nuclear weapons are being developed which "by their very characteristics may increase the probability of a nuclear war," according to the institute. In particular, very accurate and reliable ballistic missiles are being developed, "more suitable for fighting a nuclear war than deterring it."

The report says a comprehensive nuclear test ban treaty could put a stop to

most of the qualitative developments in nuclear warhead design. Such a treaty would have to be "permanent and multilateral," with all parties participating in its verification.

Lack of reliable verification, which has been a stumbling-block in negotiations, bringing the total since 1945 to 1,231—about one a week on average. Last year, the USSR conducted 29 nuclear tests, the US 18, France nine and Britain one.

Britain's nuclear test made in the U.S. was of Chevaline, its new warhead for Polaris submarine missiles.

World Armaments and Disarmament, Taylor and Francis, 10-14, Macklin Street, London WC2B 5HF.

space detected what was apparently a small nuclear explosion, equivalent to 24 kilotonnes of TNT, from a height of about 60,000 kms.

Another 53 nuclear explosions were recorded by the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute last year, bringing the total since 1945 to 1,231—about one a week on average. Last year, the USSR conducted 29 nuclear tests, the US 18, France nine and Britain one.

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Current binding contracts are available for transfer with the business.

As a going concern £50,000

+ SAY  
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HUNTING GLASSON LIMITED, a national public company having diverse interests in engineering, construction, participation in established sub-contracting areas in civil, trade, domestic and industrial markets and products utilizing existing production facilities.

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Is part of your business tied up in your business? Would you like to unlock those assets? If so, talk to us on an informal and strictly confidential basis.

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## UK NEWS - LABOUR

# Pit closure policy would mean battle, say miners

BY PHILIP BASSETT AND CHRISTIAN TYLER

THE GOVERNMENT was warned yesterday by the miners' strike behind the warnings of pit closures was to create a mood of apprehension among the miners, "I can only wish the Government that it could have the reverse effect and get the lads' backs up even more than wages."

The warning was given further force at the Scottish Area conference of the NUM, where it became clear that Left-wing NUM leaders would mount a campaign in the coming months to prepare the miners for industrial action over pay this winter if necessary.

The NUM executive in a stormy meeting considered policies on coking coal imports and effects of the cut in the steel industry which they said had led to warnings about the future of a number of pits in South Wales.

Mr. Joe Gormley, NUM president, said after the meeting: "We shall resist as far as humanly possible the decimation of this industry."

The Government seemed perhaps to have forgotten the

lessons of the miners' strikes of 1972 and 1974. If the idea behind the warnings of pit closures was to create a mood of apprehension among the miners, "I can only wish the Government that it could have the reverse effect and get the lads' backs up even more than wages."

At the forefront of the coming campaign to win basic-rate increases of about 35 per cent this winter will be the Scottish miners, who at the conference in Rothesay, Isle of Bute, unanimously adopted a pay demand for a minimum £100 a week for surface workers.

The present basic rate is £73.65.

The demand implies a coalface basic of about £140 against the present £102. It is likely to be carried by the union's national conference in three weeks' time.

Delegates declared yesterday that the claim was the result of genuine pressure from the rank-and-file feeling the pinch at home, and was moderate in the light of high inflation.

Scottish miners have

generally done less well out of incentive bonus schemes than their English colleagues. Many receive no bonus at all, or sums of £5 to £10 a week compared with £50 to £100 in some English coalfields.

Mr. Michael McGahey, the Scottish president, said: "Don't pass this resolution unless you believe in it and don't pass it unless you are prepared to fight for it." Don't let us mislead the membership."

There would have to be a campaign not only in Scotland but throughout the country.

He suggested that the wages campaign and the concurrent demand for a four-day week be linked with the candidacy of Mr. Arthur Scargill, Yorkshire Area president, for presidency of the union to succeed Mr. Gormley.

Mr. Gormley said yesterday that the executive had "without dissent" suggested he stay on for three years, until he was 65. He feared that his negotiating position with the NCB might be weakened by suggestions of his retirement.

Workers who opted for redundancy against union advice would not be able to return to Lucas. Jobs vacated by volunteers might be blacked.

Such policies, said Mr. Hunt, forced Lucas Aerospace to "back off" and reduce redundancies in the Birmingham area from 800 to about 400.

Officials from the nine unions representing the 13,000 Lucas Electrical workers meet the company today, and will urge work sharing rather than redundancies.

Lucas, which blames the action on the International recession in the motor industry, seems unlikely to make concessions.

Lucas has offered £1,200 above the legal requirement, which means that a worker with 20 years' service might pick up a lump sum of about £4,500.

• Deadlock has been reached at Lucas Aerospace in the first negotiations of the next pay round. The company, after a union demand for 30 per cent, offered 400 production workers 10 per cent, worth £1.1 a week to skilled employees.

# Unions to fight Lucas pay-offs

By Arthur Smith, Midlands Correspondent

TRADE UNION officials remain determined to fight 3,000 redundancies at Lucas Electrical despite a flood of shop floor voluntary redundancies.

"We shall be taking every step necessary to convince our members that to accept voluntary redundancy is not an easy answer," Mr. Eddie Hunt, Birmingham South District secretary of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers said last night.

"The message has not yet got home to many workers that unemployment is worse than ever. Many employees, particularly those over 40, might never work again."

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## Offer rejection recommended

UNION NEGOTIATORS will recommend rejection of what they say is a 16 per cent pay offer to staff at the Legal and General, one of the country's largest insurance companies.

The company said the offer was worth about 22 per cent.

Talks between it and the Association of Scientific, Technical and Managerial Staffs at the Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service broke down yesterday, after lasting all day.

## Ford proposals rejected

THE 4,000 hourly-paid production workers in the body and assembly plants at Ford Motor's Halewood site on Merseyside have rejected at a mass meeting the company's national proposals for changing working practices, linked to improved leave.

The proposals included a double day shift instead of a night shift, less time for tea breaks and an extra five days' leave. The 4,000 nightshift men will meet on Monday and are expected to make a similar decision.

## Perkins vote

THE 7,000 production workers at the Perkins diesel engine plant in Peterborough, rejected the advice of union leaders yesterday and voted for a 16 per cent pay increase although the unions had demanded a 40 per cent rise.

Mr. Evans told his union's All-Ireland delegate conference in Newcastle, Co. Down, that the foremost measure of a successful economy was whether it provided work for its people.

"If the answer to that question is no, then all the other tests we can apply—economic growth, the level of profit of investment—pale into insignificance," he said.

The report also claims that plans to reduce by £12 a week the social security benefit paid to the family of a striker "will

directly hurt the innocent members of strikers' families."

• Our Belfast Correspondent writes: The trade union movement must harden its determination to resist the "vicious Tory strategy" and the attempts to drive unions back into a corner. Mr. Eugene Benn, of the "People with personal ambitions to be considered as a future leader of the Labour Party" must show us that they can free themselves from the dogmatism and jargon of certain sections of the Left."

Mr. Benn and others of the so-called "Left" should be applauding those who advocated a policy of socialist planning, not opposing them, he says.

The report also claims that

mount further action—including stoppages over a three-week period at the Brixton office—and has not ruled out the possibility of co-ordinated national industrial action.

Management says the two men were dismissed for unauthorised absences but the union says management was told in advance of these.

The union is expected to

call a mass meeting when the men were urged to reject the company's offer worth £13.24 a week and backdated to April 1.

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&lt;p

# The Peugeot 505



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"We found it hard to fault"

"The 505 is a sensible thoroughly developed executive car..."

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"With the 505, Peugeot have achieved their aim to produce a car that has the excellent ride, good noise suppression and comfort of a limousine, but that has the sporty appeal of cars from a marque such as BMW."

*What Car, November 1979*

"The 505's main appeal is that it is a particularly well balanced all-rounder, notable for its quietness and comfort."

*Daily Telegraph, November 1979*



505 STI Interior

"It is, above all, a well-balanced car: quiet, well-sprung and pleasant to handle."

*Sunday Telegraph, December 1979*

"Ride and handling of the 505 was impressive. Towcar of the Year 1980, the Peugeot 505 SR."

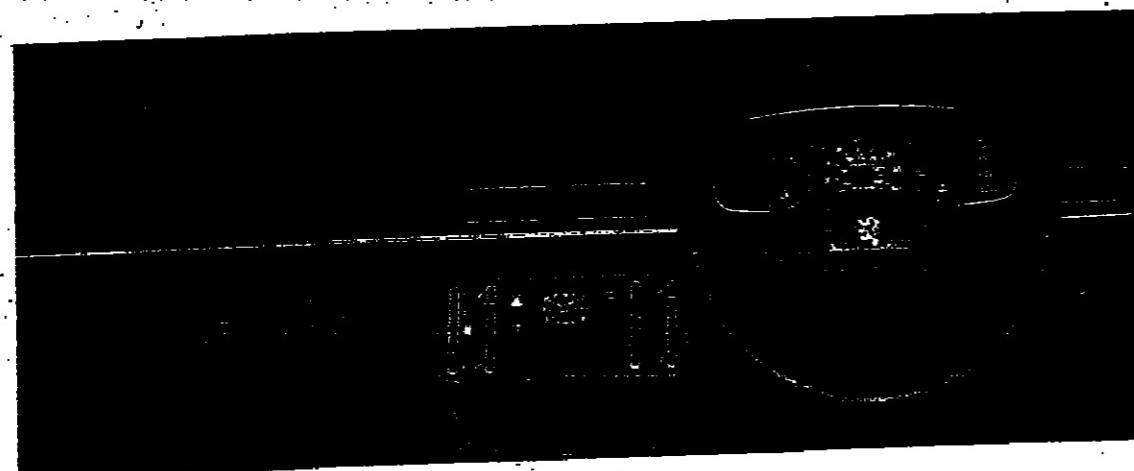
*Caravan, December 1979*

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*Car Magazine, December 1979*

"As always in a Peugeot, the ride quality is superb."

*Financial Times, December 1979*



505 GR Dashboard

"Quite simply, the 505 is an excellent motorcar... good at most things, excellent at some, and poor at none."

*Motor, November 1979*

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## UK NEWS = PARLIAMENT and POLITICS

# 'Lack of leadership' in West says Healey

BY JOHN LLOYD, LABOUR CORRESPONDENT

**M**R. DENIS HEALEY, the Shadow Chancellor, yesterday criticised Western governments for showing a "lack of leadership" and called for international action to avoid "a recession comparable to that of the 1930s."

Mr. Healey also delivered a domestic swipe at the Prime Minister, saying that the £750m reduction in the UK's contribution to the European Community's budget would be worth at best only £200m in the present year, while half of the remainder would be taken up by EEC expenditure of social and regional aid in the UK, rather than in a monetary re-

fund.

In a speech to the International Metalworkers Federation's central committee, which meets in London this week, Mr. Healey said that the major problem facing the West was the increasing real oil price and the surplus build-up in the

## OECD countries.

"There may be a surplus of \$100bn over the next year, which means \$100bn out of world demand."

He said that the governments of the oil consuming countries must introduce deficit financing to compensate for the loss of demand.

If this policy were not adopted, the recession would be deeper and longer than necessary, with the possibility of a collapse of the banking system.

Mr. Healey said that the third world economies which did not possess oil would be worst hit by the recession.

"Governments will come to realise that you cannot run a modern economy without close co-operation with the trade union movement," he said.

He continued: "The tragedy is that this time there has been little leadership from government which has done for door-to-door salesmen."

with the crisis. Nearly all governments will tonight make it plain that he would like to see the restrictions of his post lifted to allow him to initiate complaints against Government departments rather than simply taking up those problems referred to him through MPs.

Mr. Cecil Clother, the Parliamentary Commissioner for Administration, will explain on the ITN programme Public Office that the ability to initiate rather than react to complaints is the major necessary reform which has become clear during his period of office.

He says: "It seems to me that it would be a good thing and a reassurance to the public if somebody quite independent could take a look at the whole of this particular aspect of administration and see whether it couldn't be improved."

At present the Ombudsman can only deal with complaints from the public if they have been channelled first through local MPs.

Mr. Clother says that the need to alter the present arrangements came sharply into focus after a recent case of a bogus doctor who performed 29 operations before it was discovered that he was not a surgeon.

Employing a favourite metaphor, he said that "Mrs. Thatcher has done for monetarism what the Boston Strangler has done for door-to-

## Ombudsman to appeal for wider powers

By Philip Bassett

# Technical Page

EDITED BY ARTHUR BENNETT AND TED SCHOETERS

## • INSTRUMENTS

### Locates underground water leaks

ESCAPES FROM buried water pipes reveal their presence by the noise they make but it is not always a simple matter to locate them very accurately with conventional listening tubes, especially in the noisy conditions of busy streets.

Since inaccurate location can often mean wasted digging, the Water Research Centre recently commissioned Plessey's Electronic Systems Research Laboratory in Havant to develop a location instrument and the resulting unit, called the Leak Noise Correlator, can determine the position of most water leaks in pressurised pipes to within one metre.

Basic principle is that, if acoustic detectors are placed on either side of the suspected position of the leak (attached, say, to fittings or standpipes) then the time difference of the arrival of sound at each will be a measure of the leak position. Technique used in the instru-

ment is progressively to delay the signal from one transducer and multiply it by that from the other, plotting the result against time on a chart recorder.

The plot reaches a peak when the two signals (delayed from one transducer and undelayed from the other) are coincident in time, and the position of the peak from the start of the trace indicates the time difference. Then, knowing the speed of sound in water and the distance between the two detectors, the leak position can be found.

Position is determined to one metre and if two leaks happen to exist they will both show up on the plot.

Portable, the unit can be mounted on a vehicle and is easy to use.

Manufacture is being undertaken by Plessey AEA, Great Yarmouth, Norfolk, (0493 58541).

## • COMMUNICATIONS

### Stops unauthorised calls

MOST DIRECTORS and managers have a continuing uneasy feeling that the company telephone system is being used for unwarranted private purposes by employees.

Some do not mind, regard it as an unavoidable expense and trust their employees to use the phones with consideration. For those that do mind, and would like to put a stop to the practice, Telspec, of 15 The Broadway, Midsomer Norton, Somerset, BA2 6SW, (0622 55848), have an equipment which, when it is approved by the Post Office, will be able to prevent various categories of unauthorised calls.

Telspec Securitel, it operates on four levels of outgoing calls: no bar at all; no international subscriber dialling; no trunk dialling (that is, local calls only can be made); and emergency calls only. Incoming calls are not affected.

## • ELECTRONICS

### Tiny memory device

NATIONAL Semiconductor says it has produced the industry's smallest bubble memory package with release on a sample basis of the NBM2256, a 256k device in a dual-in-line package occupying a base area of 1.10 x 1.10 inches and having a height of 0.36 inch.

Operating at 100 kHz, the device has a data rate of 100 kilobits per second and a seven milliseconds average access time to the first bit of a random data block. Power dissipation is about 750 milliwatts.

The company has used direct stepping on the wafer during the projection lithography process which "prints" each circuit. Dimensions down to 1.5 microns are involved and the

storage cell size is only about 12 microns square. This makes possible a bit density of 670,000 bits/cm<sup>2</sup> and results in an overall die size of only 300 x 320 mils.

It is intended to complement the bubble memory with four support circuits—controller, function driver, coil driver and sense amplifier—to give a complete bubble memory subsystem in only 9 sq in of board area. Availability will be late this year but in the meantime a board with standard IC support will be supplied for evaluation purposes.

More from 301, Harpur Centre, Horne Lane, Bedford (0234 47147).

## • ENERGY

### Prevents heat wastage

HUDDERSFIELD factory of T. H. Rayner and Son carries out commission wool scouring, carbonising, bleaching and moth proofing, and can now save something like 120,000 therms a year with the installation of an ICCO recuperator from Spur Engineering, 138 Kenley Road, Merton Park, London, SW19 (01-564 4581).

The recuperator carries out the pre-heating duties of a 10,000 gallon water storage tank—supply source for several securing lines used in the factory processes.

Pre-heating is achieved by extracting, and then utilising, waste heat from the exhaust gases of one of two 20,000 lb an hour steam boilers (made by Robey of Lincoln).

Demand for water in the scouring process is so high that heat recovery (which increases as greater calls are made upon water in this particular installation) is exceeding expectations, says the company.

Specifically, with a final exhaust gas temperature of 35 degrees C and below, an overall combustion efficiency of 98 per cent, and better, is being achieved; while high efficiencies are resulting in all ICCO installations, this is the highest to date calculated by Spur Engineering.

Apart from effecting big fuel savings, the installation is also

instrumental in providing sizeable water gains in creating water by gas condensates, said to be a major feature at the Huddersfield factory where water demand is high.

This stainless steel apparatus operates by condensing the water vapour of the exhaust gases—achieved by washing them by direct contact with water. Substantial quantities of both sensible and latent heat may be reclaimed and the heat re-utilised, either direct or through heat exchangers, for various applications such as hot water services for hospitals and hotels, heating of water for industrial processes (as at Huddersfield), swimming pools, underfloor heating, air heating, and any low grade heat requirement.

The recuperator may also be added to existing plant.

## • MATERIALS

### Produces very strong joints

SAY TO be so versatile that it can replace half a dozen other glues in the typical wood-working shop is an adhesive called Rakoil Express TO 50 distributed in the UK by Sonnenborn and Rieck Jara Works, Peregrine Road, Hainault, Ilford, Essex (01-500 0251).

Although PVA-based dispersion glues are not rare, setting time and viscosity, in addition to economy, vary greatly in use of the material, says the company, but this one is very quick to set—even when applied in a relatively thick film on joints that are rough from the saw. It is economical in use and produces elastic but very strong joints.

## • OFFICE EQUIPMENT

### Microfilm reduces need for paper

LARGE SCALE commitment of an organisation's paper documentation to microfilm is still an idea which engenders unease among many managers, efficiency, reliability and cost remaining the prime questions.

Two systems, a recorder and a sheet film retrieval system about to be marketed in the UK by A. B. Dick after considerable success in the US, should remove many doubts and also meet requirements for easy updating and retrieval of the result.

The recorder uses transparent electrophotographic film: an initial flash illuminates exposure of the film to the document via a lens system makes electro-sensitive patterns on the film surface to which a toner adheres and is fixed by a radiant heat exposure. Each image is permanently recorded in eight seconds. It cannot be removed but can be overwritten and added to by subsequent exposures, allowing updating, invalidation of one frame and its replacement by another.

The film does not become sensitive to light until placed in the recorder so that during external handling and storage it is virtually unaffected by normal office lighting.

Use of the machine, known as

System 200, is very simple. The operator simply hangs the file on a holder in a vertical receptacle, places the original on the copying horizontal platen, uses a keyboard to determine which of the 60 (or 98) file frame positions shall be filled, and presses the start button. Vacuum systems grasp the file, a cover slides over the original, exposures take place, and the file is ready for removal and handling in eight seconds.

Similarly, the image can be added to, but only after the operator overrides interlocks that normally prevent double exposure of a file position. The large, overprinted word "VOID" can be added in the same way. When a new file is being filed from the start of the top row (portrait mode is used for recording), the recorder will automatically step from one position to the next.

Although over 700 of these machines have been placed in the U.S. the company is only now starting earnest marketing in the UK. An early customer will probably be the Financial Times which plans to put international company data on to microfilm.

The problem of retrieving a frame of information from one file is of course, relatively simple using a modern projection reader with X-Y manipulation of the file; a frame can be found in a few seconds. However, if there are a large number of files the right one has to be isolated, so that the problem once again assumes

overtones of paperwork.

To make this a simple matter a Cincinnati company called Access Information Control Systems has for some time been selling a retrieval machine in the US—there are some 6,000 installations—and is now making it available in the UK through A. B. Dick (88 High Street, Brentford, Middlesex, TW8 8BA, 01-588 8898).

It consists of a selection unit which holds the file, stacked vertically side by side, in a number of cartridges. Each cartridge, about the size of a couple of shoeboxes placed end to end, holds file equivalent to 2,000 sheets of paper. Associated with the retrieval unit is a free-standing keyboard console with one-line electronic display.

By manipulation of the stacks of file and their presentation to the magnet/bar selection unit, the equivalent of 1,000 filing cabinets can be stored—the Access System M—and retrieval time still does not exceed 14 seconds for one file.

The recorder supplied in the 60 frame/file format costs a little under £20,000 and the cost of file is 21.6p each. The Access selection equipment has a starting price of about £6,000 while the big System M costs £12,000.

It is understood that A. B. Dick is about to take a more comprehensive approach to information retrieval; it will embrace computer systems where necessary and will be able to draw on the resources of its new parent, the General Electric Company.

It sees no competition between computer and microfilm, claiming that even in well computerised companies only 2 or 3 per cent of the information that has to be kept is in a computer store—but very little of the archival, semi-archival and original document material.

GEOFFREY CHARLISH

## • TEXTILES

### Resistance of fabrics to fire

A NEW piece of test equipment has been developed in Yorkshire by a British company for monitoring the effects of flame applied to sample fabrics.

The model 280 flammability tester of James H. Heal and Co. (Richmond Works, Halifax, W. Yorks, 0422 66355) has been designed to provide data that will conform with the British Standard BS 5345 and it is likely that it may well be easy to adapt to meet all the proposed regulations of the ISO—International Standards Organisation.

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archival and original document material.

Because of its modular construction the tester can provide data about all aspects of a fabric's flammability behaviour,

while it may, in a simpler context, allow for effective checks of "burn/non-burn" to be made by dyers and finishers with a minimum of delay, but with a maximum of reliability.

This involves screen printing a design, company logo, etc., directly onto the glass and uses enamels which are set into the material thus allowing the glass surface to retain its smoothness and luster.

Medium-sized organisations can order glassware in moderate quantities which carry their own artwork or designs specially prepared for them by a panel of artists working at the studio of Peters Studio Glass, Adams Pool, Chelworth, Gloucester, Glos, (01-588 3784).

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# THE PROPERTY MARKET

BY MICHAEL CASSELL

## Aquis sells biggest asset to Matheson

**AQUIS SECURITIES** is selling Aquis House in London's Cheapside—accounting for over half the company's total property investment portfolio—for £2.5m cash to Repbeach, a subsidiary of Matheson, the shipping to insurance group.

For Matheson, in turn, a subsidiary of Hong Kong trading group Jardine Matheson, the deal represents a return to the property market after its sale last year of Reunion Properties to Hammerson for £22.5m cash. More of the proceeds could yet be involved in other property purchases.

The decision by Aquis, the property investment and development group which last year recorded a fall in pre-tax profits from £520,000 to £384,000, has created considerable surprise in view of the historic importance of Atlas House to the company.

Purchased in 1972 for £5.5m from Guardian Royal Exchange, the building is now with a property collapse in between—in the books at £5.25m. Last year it brought in £445,000 in rental income.

More significant, however, is the potential of the 40,000 sq ft building where the lease falls due in September 1981. Last year, Aquis received full planning consent for a refurbishment scheme and there were clear hopes of a big boost in rental income and an uplift in asset values per share.

But Aquis, in which GRE

holds a 65 per cent interest, has decided on another course of action and the reasoning behind its move will be set out in a shareholders' circular due out today. An extraordinary general meeting to approve the sale will be held at the end of this month.

These will provide 33,150 sq ft of offices at Coverdale House, 13-15 East Parade, due for completion in December this year, and a further 44,450 sq ft of offices at Lonsdale House, also in East Parade, due for completion March 1981.

Project managers are Landmark Development Consultants and Abacus, a subsidiary of Sir Robert McAlpine, are the developers. Joint letting agents Bernard Thorpe and Strutt and Parker say that an asking rent of £5.50 a sq ft will be sought for both schemes.

The freehold of the sites is owned by the City Council and a 125-year lease, presently held by Abacus, will pass to the Prudential on completion. Three further developments—providing a further 100,000 sq ft of offices—on adjacent sites are planned by Abacus and Landmark but funding has still to be arranged. These are not due for completion until 1983-84 at the earliest.

The central Leeds office market has over the past decade shown a stability which compares well with other major provincial markets. Rents have moved steadily upwards over the decade punctuated by periodic plateaux rather than reversals—in marked contrast to the boom and bust record of cities like London, Manchester and Birmingham.

ANDREW TAYLOR

Approval of European Ferries' ambitious scheme, which MPs of every persuasion

will be Stuart Holland, Labour MP for Vauxhall, who is the first to accept that he is unlikely to be nominated for any

reselection.

Another interested observer

will be John Holland, Labour

MP for Vauxhall, who is the

first to accept that he is un-

likely to be nominated for any

reselection.

What the industry has not

seemed to grasp is that we are

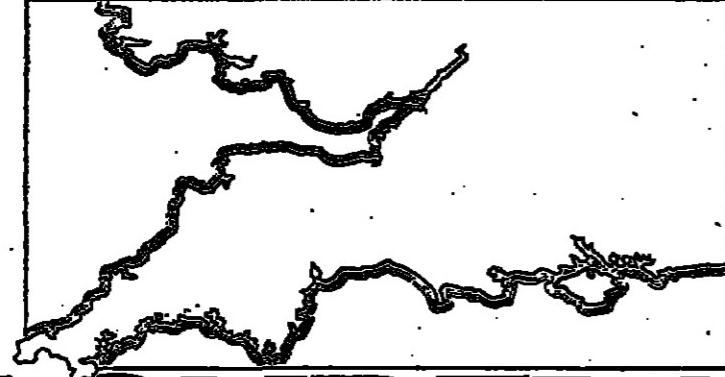
no longer talking about swings

in a cyclical industry which

have traditionally brought

booms and crises. It appears to

be ignoring the continuing



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## Final curtain in the South Bank show

**ANNOUNCEMENTS** on the future of London's two controversial South Bank development sites appear only days away and those who stalk the corridors of power say that while the European Ferries scheme will be approved, neither Commercial Properties nor Greycourt London Estates will be so lucky.

Reports from planning inquiry inspectors which have for some time been with Mr. Michael Heseltine, Secretary for the Environment, are understood to have given the go-ahead to the 300,000 sq ft office and apartments complex planned by Euro-Ferries for the south side of Vauxhall Bridge.

Mixed schemes put forward by Commercial Properties and Greycourt London Estates, involving the Coin Street site, which stretches along the south bank between Waterloo and Blackfriars bridges, are believed, however, to have been turned down.

There is no guarantee that Mr. Heseltine will accept his inspectors' recommendations (a vociferous lobby of Conservative MPs opposed to the irreversibly dubbed "green giant" scheme seems likely to be spread between new developments and investment deals).

As for GRE, it is clearly supporting the Cheapside deal and, despite suggestions that the move could trigger off some form of reorganisation of interests, the likelihood is that the insurance group's position

will remain substantially unchanged.

Mr. Holland wears such umbrage easily and at the Coin Street inquiry gave evidence in support of the plans put forward by local community groups. He has subsequently and enthusiastically pursued an anti-office development campaign, not only in respect of his own constituency but in terms of London as a whole. The capital, he says, desperately needs housing while there is no proven need for a major expansion in office space.

As for Coin Street, a refusal to allow the large-scale commercial schemes put forward at last year's marathon inquiry (could London Weekend Television's comparatively limited plans scrape through?) will presumably help pave the way for the much-cherished plans of local community groups who, with the support of Lambeth Council, say such sites should provide homes and not offices.

**Watched**

Whatever the outcome, events will no doubt be closely watched by The Proprietors of Hays Wharf, which wants to redevelop 25 acres of south bank between Tower Bridge and London Bridge. It hopes, however, that in dealing with Southwark planners—who have indicated they are not opposed in principle to office schemes where planning gains are also involved—it will have a much easier ride.

"What the industry has not seemed to grasp is that we are no longer talking about swings in a cyclical industry which have traditionally brought booms and crises. It appears to be ignoring the continuing

trend to decentralise from London because of the high costs involved and mounting employee resistance to commuting and, perhaps more importantly, has failed almost totally to appreciate the impact which new technology is certain to have on office employment.

Mr. Holland says that, in addition, the total cost of providing new office space in central London are becoming prohibitive—not simply from the developer's point of view but for the community as a whole.

"People invariably mention the rate income generated by a new scheme but the public expenditure per head on overheads, capital and services for offices can be immense and can easily offset any income in that direction."

"The fact is that whether you talk about social costs or likely levels of demand for future space no-one appears to have made any efforts to think through it. It is scandalous that everything can apparently be sold so readily to market forces but on that basis alone I believe the central London office scene could be heading for serious trouble."

"It is all very well to take to a short-term view if as a developer or contractor you are in and out of a project but those involved in funding and looking for a long-term source of rents, profits and dividends must adopt a different approach. The prospects warrant a much closer examination than in the past when a good office block in central London was automatically assumed to be a good investment."

## IN BRIEF

**SLOUGH** acquires an 8 acre site near Hanover airport in West Germany, where it plans a 200,000 sq ft mixed industrial and office development. Total cost of the scheme is estimated at between \$1m and \$5m, including land purchase. Work on a first phase of 46,000 sq ft is expected to be completed this autumn. Weatherhead Green and Smith are letting agents.

**Stratclyde** Regional Council Superannuation Fund has, through Richard Ellis, paid £2.2m for a shop unit with 12,055 sq ft of retail space in the first phase of Lincoln's new Cornhill shopping development. Vendors of the store, let to W. H. Smith on a 30-year lease at a current £27,500, were Lincoln Corn Exchange and Market represented by Healeys and Baker.

**Bernard Thorpe** has let 700,000 sq ft of industrial space in Antwerp in the first five months of this year compared with its own earlier forecast of 650,000 sq ft for the whole of 1980. In the latest deal 200,000 sq ft has been let to Concordia Mall, a postal company. A rental of only 45p a sq ft—even though this is an older building—shows that the Antwerp industrial market has still some way to go before the corner is turned.

**Estate and General Investments** are to develop a 2.5m mixed industrial and warehouse scheme providing 61,000 sq ft of space at Simonds Road, Leyton, E10.

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## THE MANAGEMENT PAGE

WITH BETTER quality management now one of China's most urgent priorities, the new Chinese Enterprise Management Association has begun to make contact with selected western management organisations. One of the first delegations to be received on a recent three-week visit, was from the UK's Association of Teachers of Management.

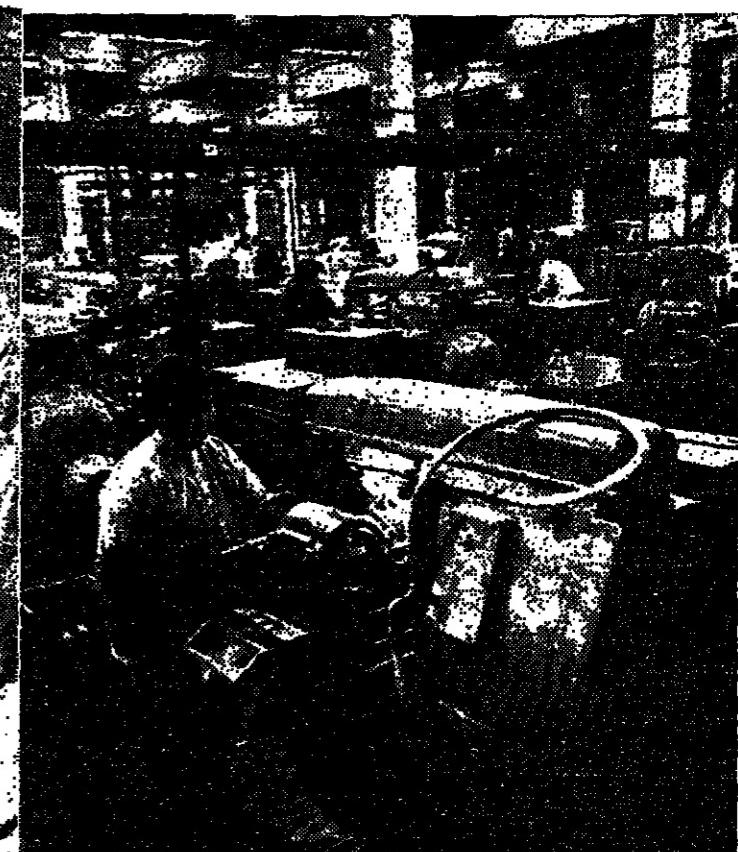
The Chinese association was established just over a year ago, and charged with the task of professionalising the country's industrial management. It forms part of the State Economic Commission, the Peking government's top industrial supervisory body. In addition to representatives of the commission, its

membership includes the directors of factories (top management) and university professors.

In addition to its direct talks with the association, the UK delegation — consisting of 15 people from industry, consultancies, business schools, universities and polytechnics — met managers at a dozen factories all over China, as well as academics in the new departments of enterprise management at leading Chinese universities. So it gained an unusually detailed picture of the turbulent wind of change now blowing through Chinese industry. In the articles below, and on Monday, the leader of the delegation, Bob Garratt, examines some of the undercurrents.

# How China's managers are trying to move mountains

Bob Garratt looks behind the scenes at China's new industrial revolution and discovers a vivid contrast of stress and success



Chinese contrasts: the traditional commune factory (left), and the modern State plant

**DIMLY ILLUMINATED** by a few strings-suspended light bulbs, more than half the workshop's machines lie idle on the rammed earth floor. Round them, in operation, crowd a large group of workers, their actions hampered by the jumbled layout of the factory. In a shed next door sit 10 lathees, made a year ago but still waiting for the customer to deliver his barter products in exchange.

Little more than a stone's throw away, you find a contrast that could hardly be more stark. In a brightly-lit modern hall, the most up-to-date computer-controlled

machine tools are carefully laid out on a concrete floor. There are far fewer workers, and many speak fluent English.

Both plants are in Northeast Shanghai. The first belongs to the Jiang Wan Commune, the second — the Shanghai Machine Building Factory — to the State. In microcosm, they represent China's new industrial revolution: the traditional collective factory, which grew and was managed in disorganized fashion; and the carefully planned enterprise, newly equipped to world-class standards, making advanced products, and now designated

### Incentives at an efficient 'key' factory

IN SPITE of all the political turbulence in China over the past decade, the State-owned Shanghai Machine Building Factory has succeeded in gradually raising its performance to a world-class standard in terms both of the quality of its products and the productivity of its labour force.

Offering a range of 50 grinding machines — many of them advanced even by western standards — and now making 2,000 units a year, it has established itself in a series of competitive export markets: not only East European countries such as Romania, but also Australia, Canada and the very home of modern capitalism, the United States.

It was because of its outstanding performance that the factory was declared a "key" enterprise by the State Economic Commission, and encouraged to forge an "advanced pathfinder" role in the four areas which are now of main concern for Chinese industry: the encouragement of efficiency and lower costs; the improvement of quality; new directions in worker participation; and developing the freedom of enterprises to market some of their production outside the State quota system.

As with all Chinese enterprises, the Shanghai factory is the focus of both work and social life for its 6,000 workers (1,700 of whom are women). It provides sanitation, clinical, creche, nursery and disability care, public canteens, housing and sports facilities. Fellow workers have a major say in such decisions as an individual's marriage, his size of family and his travel. This may seem objectionable to a western observer, but is an accepted way of life in China.

The factory is ultimately controlled by the local Party Committee. At one level, workshops, work teams, departments and work groups (the smallest unit comprising 15-20 people) compete with each other, while within each work group the individual workers also compete with each other.

Both the group and the individual incentive systems were initiated by the State, and have been available since early this year, but each factory has considerable freedom to tailor its own group scheme, whereas the details of its individual scheme are nationally imposed: a 14-15 per cent annual bonus

for "above average" workers which must be given to 40 per cent of each work group, distribution being decided within the group itself by the famous national process of consensus.

In the Shanghai factory, the work group incentive system is made as public as possible by the use of blackboards at each work space. These display competitive performances, and are updated on a daily and weekly basis.

The group incentive system is operated by the factory's "trade union" and its technical department. They decide the criteria for selecting the winning group and the size of the prize, which is both cash and public-spirited praise. Groups are examined to check the technical merits of their ideas, and the winner's members are then given a monthly bonus of between 5 and 10 Yuan for the next year (7 to 15 per cent of the average monthly wage).

Special merit bonuses can be given to individual workers for their performance as "advanced pathbreakers," of whom there were eight in 1979, but the main individual competition is for the 14-15 per cent annual bonus for "above average" workers.

Penalties are also imposed in the important areas — lateness and machine maintenance. The first time a worker is late he loses one-third of his monthly bonus, twice and two-thirds are lost, three times and the whole is lost. Spot checks are made monthly on workers' machines to check maintenance, and any worker achieving less than 60 per cent of the target set by the technical department loses his bonus.

In a cash-starved economy such incentives and penalties have highly motivating effects but Western observers should not assume that their introduction in China will lead to the rapid alienation of those workers who do not get them, or that the gradual accumulation of cash will create a materialism in which the incentives lose their effect. The last 30 years have seen

their approach to industrialisation.

The "pragmatic" policy which has been adopted during the nationally-declared "period of economic readjustment" comprises many elements. Two of the most obvious are the shift in industrial emphasis from the production of heavy goods towards consumerism, and the first steps away from centralised planning and control towards decentralised autonomy in each enterprise.

To the individual enterprise and worker one of the most evident expressions of the new philosophy has been the introduction of a system

of cash incentives with an ambitious list of aims: improving productivity, raising standards of product quality and safety at work, increasing the efficiency of materials usage, and generally improving cost control.

Given that the "new pragmatism" represents such a radical rethink of the accepted Chinese Communist concept of a developing socialist state, it is not surprising that everyone concerned is experiencing intellectual stress — on social and economic concepts, as well as political.

The problems of relaxing

the rigours of State economic

planning are coinciding with the pain and uncertainty of managers and workers in each enterprise having to learn how to grapple with their new internal economics.

The traditional emphasis was firmly on output to meet the State quotas. Now each enterprise is being encouraged to make a production surplus and sell it to other enterprises.

In a product-starved economy this could be achieved simply by traditional selling and advertising techniques. But the more far-sighted Chinese managers and professors realise that two fundamental and allied pro-

cesses — design and marketing in its full Western sense — will be needed before any real "management" of an enterprise can be achieved.

Equally, while the ability to think of an enterprise as an independent economic unit with its own brain, sensors, resources and markets seems to be missing in most current Chinese managerial thinking, there are signs of growing realisation that something is not right in the present approach to "management," and that the source of the problem may lie in the relationship between the State and each enterprise.

In particular, managers within certain enterprises — especially those trading internationally — are beginning to feel that a change in financial concepts is needed. At present, the finances of each enterprise are not measured by any Western notion of profitability, as all selling prices are fixed by the State, and input costs are not compensated against them. For the many Chinese managers, the word "profit" seems to have come to refer to the enterprise's surplus of production over and above the State quota. "Pragmatism" still has a long way to go.

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## THE ARTS

## Cinema

## Return of the silly season

by NIGEL ANDREWS

**Holiday (AA)**  
Classic Haymarket  
**Long Weekend (AA)**  
Odeon Kensington and  
Swiss Cottage, Classic Chelsea  
Friday the 13th (OO)  
Warner A&E Shaftesbury  
Avenue Studio Cinema  
**Skip Tracer (AA)**  
Pineapple Picture

Raging winds and feral hounds cut down the population of a Samoan island... horrible things happen to a husband and wife camping on an Australian beach near an abattoir... even more horrible things happen to a bunch of youngsters caretaking in a pre-season American camp-site... a Canadian debt-collector prowling through a silent house opens a cupboard and out plops a slaughtered child... another lies behind the shower curtain... a girl gets a hatchet in the head... Trevor Howard is drowning... a dead dog lunges furiously up a beach, playing Grandmother's Fopsteps with a young Australian couple.

Welcome to Midsummer Madness week! With the silly season spiralling into almost total dementia, it's time to be abroad or else to gird up your perverse wonderment and see just what happens to commercial movies when the heat, marvellously and deliriously, turns their heads.

There's a majesty of sorts about naked nonsense. When the cinema comes out in the high-summer all-together, without a shred of intellectual pretension, you can see what an endearing dynamism of daff energy it is—even sometimes especially—at its worst. No artistic super-ego rules the thrashing Id of *Hurricane*, *Friday the 13th* and *Long Weekend*, and those seeking a banished blast of bargain-price Romantic Agony need trouble to look no further.

Be prepared only for the fact that the good lies down with the bad and the ugly, and strange, restless, dickering bedfellows they make. *Hurricane*, for instance, has a plot of marvellous exoticism culled from John Ford's 1937 movie of the same title. In 1920s Samoa an American governor's daughter (Mia Farrow) falls in love with a handsome native (Dayton Callie), while the storm-clouds gather, both figurative and literal. Extravagant in the form of her father (Jason Robards), a censorious grey-beard scowling at the misregeneration. Literal in the approaching hurricane that finally levels the island, leaving only the lovers alive in a new, mystic, gale-cleaned Eden.



Scene from the adventure film Hurricane

Grand plot, but in this Dino di Laurentiis remake a ga-ga treatment. Whoever thought to engage Jan Troell, for example, Swedish master of spacious story—via *The Emigrants*—to direct the film? Troell and his fellow-Swede, cinematographer Sven Nykvist, swathe the proceedings in a bilious yellow mist and cut a dourly Nordic, humorless path through the South Seas' *L'amour fou*. The pulse briefly quickens in the hurricane climax, with the Pacific pounding across the screen uprooting trees and churches, but even here the model-work is too conspicuously the cutting too haphazard.

The actors, meanwhile, go down for the third time well before the literal flood-tides rise from Mia Farrow's fluting wail and Jason Robards's grimly dull governour to cameo creak-throughs from Max Von Sydow and Trevor Howard as doctor and priest. What remains are brief shafts of sunlight from the wonderfully far-fetched plot.

And piquant reveries about what Roman Polanski—hired to direct the film before his legal troubles intervened—might have made of the story's strange, steamy, sinewy hyperboles.

\*

*Long Weekend*, from Australia, is an even odder mish-mash: a "haunted beach" film

among the log cabins, portayed

A frightful maniac is loose among the log cabins, portayed

on among the log

# FINANCIAL TIMES

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Friday June 13 1980

## Wrong way to cut spending

**THE TREASURY'S** threat to halt all new construction by local authorities in order to impose some badly needed discipline on local government spending is a demonstration of the Government's weakness rather than its strength of purpose. The present Treasury Ministers have, in the past, been among the most vocal critics of Labour's preference for cutting capital, rather than current, spending whenever public spending has to be limited.

They are therefore well aware that the real problem that needs to be attacked is the excessive level of current spending by local authorities, which on present trends is running £7.5m or 5.6 per cent above target. In particular, local authorities have not made remotely enough effort to reduce manpower and keep their wage bills, which account for 70 per cent of current spending, within the Government's cash limits.

**Traditions**

However, the Government has no powers to influence current spending or manpower directly, whereas all capital spending requires Treasury approval. While a capital spending moratorium would do nothing about the longstanding traditions in many local authorities to look out for the interests of their own employees first and foremost, it would at least enable the Government to limit total local authority spending.

The Government would admit that a moratorium would simply visit the sins of local politicians on the construction industry and would result in considerable waste and misallocation of resources.

Nevertheless the Treasury view appears to be that the Government's macroeconomic strategy, based upon steady reductions in public spending and borrowing, must, for the moment, take precedence over all other objectives. While the Government's evident determination to stick to its plans is in principle welcome, it does not justify crude measures which could do considerable economic harm, in order merely to satisfy the letter, rather than the spirit, of the Government's promises.

The aims of reducing public spending are to release resources for use in the private sector, to cut public borrowing and hence the pressure on monetary growth and interest rates and to reduce the burden of

## Italy can pause for breath

**SIGNOR** Francesco Cossiga, the Italian Prime Minister, has reason to feel fairly happy with himself as he hosts the EEC summit in Venice. Italy's skilful chairmanship of the Community has played an important part in resolving the long and bitter argument over Britain's budgetary contribution and he will doubtless have been personally thanked by Mrs Thatcher.

At home, the threat of his impeachment over allegations that he tipped off a colleague about his son's alleged involvement in terrorism appear to be receding. Most importantly, however, this week has seen his coalition Government's mandate convincingly reaffirmed in regional and local elections.

### Hard core

The election result, though comforting to Signor Cossiga's Christian Democrats, can hardly be described as an outright victory. The turnout was low, by Italian standards, and the Communist share of the vote only dropped marginally compared with last year's general election, confirming the existence of a fairly hard core of Communist support comprising almost one-third of the electorate. The vote by no means represents the comprehensive condemnation of left-wing administrations at local level that the Christian Democrats had sought.

Equally, however, the elections failed to produce the vote of no confidence in the Cossiga Government at national level for which the Communists had campaigned. All three Government parties did well, with the Christian Democrats advancing to just under 37 per cent of the vote, compared with just over 35 per cent in the last local poll in 1975. The junior partner, the Republican Party, held its own despite fears of a reverse, and the Socialists, with almost 13 per cent, did better than in any nationwide election since 1948.

Paradoxically, however, his Socialist partners' success could actually create problems for Signor Cossiga in the medium term. The high Socialist vote was undoubtedly helped by the withdrawal from the elec-

## LEADING LDP Factions AND BOSSSES

The Liberal Democratic Party, a conservative body which dominates the politics of Japan, is divided into factions each with its own leader. Members of each faction pledge support to their leader in return for his backing, especially financial support at election time. Factions have no particular regional bases, nor are they usually of an especial ideological colour. Main leaders with the strength they commanded in the last parliament are shown alongside.



Kakuei Tanaka:  
faction of 49



Takeo Miki:  
faction of 23



Yasuhiro Nakasone:  
faction of 38



Takeo Fukuda:  
faction of 47



The late Masayoshi Ohira:  
faction of 48

# Japan : divided they rule

**A**T THE height of a prolonged and bitter power struggle within the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), the late Prime Minister, Mr. Masayoshi Ohira, refused to quit, declaring to his LDP opponents, "asking me to resign is like asking me to die." That was nine months ago. His sudden death on Thursday came precisely as opinion was growing that his resignation might be inevitable for health reasons.

An even more powerful fiscal weapon exists for the Government in the Order which it issues in November of each year to supplement the Rate Support Grant, which provides 61 per cent of local authorities' revenues. The Government could, in extremes, threaten to provide the local authorities with less than it has promised, thus reducing the Central Government Borrowing Requirement. This would be a crude weapon. Like a capital spending moratorium, it would punish responsible local authorities as well as those which have been guilty of gross overspending but it would at least ensure that the pressure to adjust to the Government's plans fell on current spending and manpower, instead of being concentrated solely on investment.

The main objection to a cut in the Rate Support Grant is that this would force many local authorities to increase their rates even beyond their present levels in order to make up the lost revenues. Indeed, authorities that were utterly determined to maintain their overspending and manpower would be able to do so, even if Mr. Ohira were still alive. The badly divided party is in for perhaps the most tumultuous post-election battle for leadership since its foundation as a conservative coalition.

The recent months of factional infighting in the LDP have even given rise to doubts about its prospects for survival as a party. Since last October, when it did badly in a general election, it has split into two groups of factions. The so-called "anti-mainstream" factions which called for Mr. Ohira's resignation because of the poor showing, include those of the former Prime Minister, Mr. Takeo Fukuda, and ex-Premier, Mr. Takeo Miki.

Another anti-Ohira group is that hawkish conservative who would like to be Prime Minister. Mr. Ohira has enjoyed the strong support of a former Prime Minister, Mr. Kakuei Tanaka, who leads what is considered the richest of all the factions.

Though the general election is only nine days away it has become virtually impossible to predict whether the LDP will fall short of the 256 seats needed to control the Lower House of the Diet. The reason is that the election was forced (on both Government and opposition) by the unexpected passage of an opposition sponsored no-confidence vote against Mr. Ohira.

It passed because nearly 70 LDP dietmen opposed to Mr. Ohira absented themselves from the voting chamber in a fit of pique.

Further complicating the picture is the fact that a regular

election for half the members of the Diet's Upper House was also due to be held in late June. A rapid decision was taken to dissolve the Diet and hold both the Upper and Lower House elections on Sunday June 22 which, awkwardly, is also the date of the world economic summit.

The bumbling way in which the LDP allowed the election to come about does not mean, as the opposition hopes, that it is necessarily in a worse position than the four main left-of-centre parties. The LDP has stronger financial resources, and a better organisation than perhaps any other party except the Japanese Communist Party (JCP).

At the risk of burying the dead too quickly, some LDP optimists are arguing that Mr. Ohira's heart attack might even have the effect of generating a mild sympathy among floating voters.

They further argue that the hospitalisation of Mr. Ohira, one day after the election campaign officially got under way, could paradoxically have worked for the LDP. His enforced silence could have been a boon during an election campaign in which there were no real issues to debate. It is remembered, in this context, that Mr. Ohira almost lost the election in October, 1979, by speaking on unpopular issues such as the need for a major tax increase.

Before Mr. Ohira died, it was a commonly held view among political analysts that the LDP would almost certainly keep its majority in the Upper House. Under the alternating election of members system, it needs to elect only 60 candidates out of the 126 up for election, most of which are running from "safe" LDP constituencies. The LDP carries 65 seats over from the

last election, three years ago, for the 252 member body.

In the Lower House, predictions for the LDP's score run from a minimum of 240 seats to 260 seats (256 represents a majority). If the lower of these figures turns out to be right, the LDP may have to resort to co-operation with middle of the road opposition parties. This could mean a small LDP offshoot, the New Liberal Club, or the anti-communist Democratic Socialist Party, which is anxious to make the defence forces strong.

Analysts say that even if the LDP winds up with only the "worst case" number of seats in their predictions, the opposition parties are very unlikely to be able to form a coalition in the Lower House. The largest opposition group, the Japan Socialist Party, can be expected to win at best 100-120 seats, or less than half of what

the LDP can muster if it does badly. For reasons which combine ideological differences and personal prejudice, the JSP can not hope to form a coalition with either the Japanese Communist Party or the smaller parties to

or another of the leadership will stand in on a temporary basis.

The acting Prime Minister, Mr. Masayoshi Ito, could also conceivably fill the gap.

The real battle, may actually

be won or lost in the days after the election. If Mr. Fukuda is named, he may want to try to stay on in December. It is more likely, however, that one of three other younger LDP leaders could step up in the queue for leadership. They include the former Defence Agency Director, General Yasuhiro Nakasone; Mr. Tomio Komoto, a former Minister of International Trade and Industry; and Mr. Kichi Miyazawa, former Foreign Minister, who appears first in line to take over the reigns of the now leaderless Ohira faction.

Richard C. Hanson  
Tokyo Correspondent

## Mr. Ohira's winning talent

**M**R. MASAYOSHI OHIRA, who died early on Thursday morning after a short illness, was probably the most unassuming personality among the long list of post-war Japanese Prime Ministers. A simple man with a modest academic record and a talent for making and keeping friends, Mr. Ohira exemplified many of the virtues that have contributed to Japan's recent prosperity.

He was known for caution

and humanity and for a marked ability (even by Japanese standards) to settle difficult problems through the patient forming of a consensus.

Mr. Ohira's life history, like that of many of his predecessors, was that of a country-boy who made good. Born into a farming family in south western Japan in 1910, Mr. Ohira was (by his own account) no more than an average performer at school. He seems to have had a streak of toughness, however, which took him to a local commercial college after his father's early death (when Mr. Ohira was 15) and subsequently to a good (but not outstanding) university career in Tokyo.

Once in Tokyo, Mr. Ohira's

talent for making friends helped him to progress further. An acquaintance from his home prefecture who had secured a top job in the Ministry of Finance helped him to enter the Ministry where he became a specialist in taxation and a trusted aide of Mr. Hayato Ikeda, a director of the Ministry's tax bureau who harboured political ambitions.

When Mr. Ikeda was elected to the Diet after the war and appointed instantly to the post of Finance Minister he selected Mr. Ohira as one of his two private secretaries. (The other was Mr. Kichi Miyazawa—a successor to the Premiership at Mr. Sato's

political and economic mis-calculations provided his enemies in the Party with an excuse to mount an attack on his leadership. At the end of 1979 almost half the parliamentary membership of the LDP refused to support him in a ballot for the premiership.

These and other factors created an impression of confidence in the Mr. Ohira cabinet and served to increase public support for the LDP—in the point where Mr. Ohira was induced to dissolve the Diet and call an early election.

Mr. Ohira's chief talent was that of building alliances in the shifting system of factions making up the LDP.

member of the Ohira faction who is counted today among possible successors to the Prime Minister. Mr. Ikeda's election as leader of the Liberal Democratic Party in 1960 helped Mr. Ohira further up the political ladder. After his boss's retirement (for health reasons) in 1964 the Ikeda faction in due course became the Ohira faction.

Between his entry to the Diet, in 1952 and his appointment as Prime Minister 26 years later Mr. Ohira held every major ministerial post at least once.

axis survived after Mr. Tanaka himself came under a cloud following revelations about his private business activities and was forced to resign in 1974. Because of its existence Mr. Ohira was able to count on the largest single block of votes within the parliamentary party in 1978 when he defeated a sitting prime minister, Mr. Takeo Fukuda, in a party leadership election.

Mr. Ohira's premiership started out, in November 1978, under favourable auspices, both

autumn 1979 (one year ahead of the constitutionally due date).

Mr. Ohira's confidence of victory in the 1979 election was so great that he chose an election issue—the need for a drastic and controversial tax increase (required to eliminate the chronic post-1973 budget deficits). Unfortunately, the choice of tax as an issue proved a miscalculation and the Liberal Democrats were returned to power, with the smallest majority in the party's history.

Mr. Ohira was a non-denominational Christian. Another unique characteristic of post-war Japanese politicians, a keen golfer and an insatiable reader of books on history and current affairs. Summing up his own success in politics, he once told a foreign journalist that his greatest political asset was his smile. The smile that followed this remark convinced most of his audience that he was right.

Charles Smith  
Far East Editor

## MEN AND MATTERS

### One more for Threadneedle St.

The long-term effects of monetarism, taken neat and in large doses, are largely unknown, although in the short-term it has produced headaches and severe disorientation among those not used to it.

How apt, then, that in a swish bar hard by the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, the intellectual citadel of American monetarism, the barman should have concocted a particularly vicious cocktail which produces a similar effect.

Based on white rum and dubbed Federal Reserve, it is popular during the happy hour among high priests from the Fed who have been known to discuss such unlikely subjects as the St. Louis Cardinals (a baseball team, I believe) under its influence.

Is there a lesson here for the keeper of the Bank of England's bar at New Change?

He could brew his own beer, doubtless bland and with no inflationary froth. But I am thinking of something with a little more bite.

No prizes, but your suggestions for a suitable recipe and name will be welcomed. Only one rule: the cocktail must be drinkable. Ingredients such as vinegar, all arsenicals and Bank of England coffee are thus banned.

### Lord-a-leaking

Is there a leaking Lord, a mole among the ermine? Consternation racked the Upper House yesterday over the advance disclosure in the Sunday papers and on radio of the Operation Jule judgement delivered by the Law Lords yesterday.

When the judgment was handed down, and proved to be precisely as predicted, there was great tutting and putting together of heads among lawyers and court staff. Officials blanched at pointed inquiries in vice and corruption.

Police say there are more than 5,000 sokaiya in Japan, and estimate that almost 3,000

rattled were the Law Lords themselves. The unfriendly Lord Diplock, who said he heard the prediction on the 7 am news, observed mildly that the BBC seemed to have "remarkable prescience."

Sir Lord Diplock, Apologies too, to the lawyer heard blustering: "Mole... phooey." My colleague who covers law and the courts has what sounds like a better theory. He claims to be at the end of one of the tendrils of a grapevine which spreads from the judicial bench, through the Inns of Court to a certain hostelry in High Holborn, where, he implies, the secrets of the law are an open book over a bottle of claret.

Is there a lesson here for the keeper of the Bank of England's bar at New Change?

He could brew his own beer,

privately to resist the object of Kearton's attentions. We shall probably have to wait for volume four of the Courtaulds saga for the omission to be made good with the revelation that the intended was the IPC Daily Mirror Group. Ops.

In the past, fearful of the blackmailers' threats, they have borne the expense and harassment, but the pioneers have now begun to ask the police for protection. The public given to their co-operation has begun to prove almost as embarrassing as the threats, and the police are eagerly awaiting their chance to beat last year's score of 243 sokaiya arrests which included that of master manipulator Kaoru Ogawa, who was reputed to "earn" more than £500,000 a year.

There has not, however, lost any of the hard commercial sense which earned him a fortune and a reputation among the botanical purists as a commercial hawk (his words).

Some of his roses are christened for love, but others purely for money. Consider the Marie Elizabeth, named after a can of sardines, and the Benson and Hedges. At present he is touting around for another nominee prepared to pay £15,000 to christen a new cutivar whose colour is described as that of tomato ketchup — a hint if ever I heard one.

Appointed a non-executive director of Courtaulds in 1967, Jay was nudged out in 1970 after a fracas over a notion from Frank (later Lord) Kearton. The then chairman and the younger eagles on his board were keen to take over "a major British pulp-producing and publishing combine," writes Jay.

Despite a lengthy "monologue à deux" he adds, he insisted that since Courtaulds had no experience in the area, he could not support the plan. His doubts were shared by fellow director David Eccles, who is reported to have likened the proposed liaison to "marrying a prostitute."

However candid his recollections, I fear Jay fails to lift

the veil completely and identify the object of Kearton's attentions. We shall probably have to wait for volume four of the Courtaulds saga for the omission to be made good with the revelation that the intended was the IPC Daily Mirror Group. Ops.

### And the scent?

Eight years in the equable climate of New Zealand have done great things for the temperament of renowned rose breeder Sam McGredy since he emigrated from the "murder triangle" of Northern Ireland. He left behind a profitable business employing 134 people, and a life in which everything was done at

## POLITICS TODAY

# Can Mr. Healey reform the party?

**MICHAEL DENNIS HEALEY** is quite likely to become leader of the Labour Party before the end of the year. Such a development is based on two assumptions.

The first is that the method of election is not changed at the Party Conference in October and that the leader continues to be chosen by the Parliamentary Party. The second is that Mr. James Callaghan will retire when the Conference is over.

It is impossible to say more about the first assumption at present, except that it is now the betting is going, and not only on the right of the party, that Mr. Callaghan's position,

the best case for his staying is to allow more time for a natural successor to emerge, and

perhaps to reach an understanding with the unions over

how they would co-operate with a future Labour Government.

The bulk of the Parliamentary Party, however, seems to have

concluded that the natural suc-

cessor is Mr. Healey, and that

it would be better to let him get on with the job.

If Mr. Callaghan goes in the autumn, he can do so grace-

fully if he stays, he runs the risk of the party becoming

irretrievable about his position.

The ease with which Mr.

Healey is elected depends

partly on a self-denying ordinance among other potential

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the right. He is not thought to

command all that many first

Preference votes, the figure of

about 60 is being mentioned.

Thus if Mr. Roy Hattersley, Mr.

William Rodgers, Mr. Roy

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were to stand against him, his

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The word at the moment is that

they may all stand down, but

the temptation to run will be

strong—if only to make a mark

for the future. If one of them

breaks ranks, the others will

## Letters to the Editor

### Moratorium on building

From the Director-General, The Federation of Civil Engineering Contractors

Sir—A moratorium on new work to be set by Local Authorities (June 12) would be a severe blow to the civil engineering industry. Some 90 per cent of our work is in the public sector and about half of that is local authority work.

Since 1973 the industry has suffered a succession of cuts in its workload, with the result that it is now operating at half its potential capacity. Moratoria on capital investment, leaving current spending untouched, in no way solve the basic problem. This would in fact be a return to the failed "stop-go" policies of earlier administrations, a short-term expedient leading to a longer-term loss of national and industrial efficiency.

The failure by successive Governments to invest in Britain was highlighted in the recent report "The British Economic Base" by Mr. W. A. P. Manser, Economic Adviser to Baring Brothers. Between 1972 and 1978 public investment in the "National Infrastructure" declined by 19.5 per cent. The report also showed that between 1961 and 1978 employment in the health service, education and social services actually doubled, yet at the same time hospital beds available fell by 14 per cent and full-time school attenders rose by only 26 per cent. These figures are surely a significant pointer to where the problem lies.

This Government must not fall into the same trap as previous administrations—which, when in opposition, they rightly castigated. The nettle of controlling current spending must be grasped; a moratorium such as that suggested in your article can only make the economic situation worse.

Derek Gaultier,  
Cowdray House,

6, Portugal Street, WC2.

### NEB's stake in Ferranti

From Mr. R. J. Hardie and others

Sir—We were disturbed to read reports of the Prime Minister's reply to a question on the proposed disposal of the NEB's shareholding in Ferranti. To dismiss the fears of the employees with a statement that the Government and the NEB had assisted Ferranti during a very difficult period and no longer needed that assistance, misses the mark by a very wide margin indeed.

The necessary injection of public capital following the financial crisis of 1974, together with the unique blend of skills and expertise assembled within the workforce have returned the company to profitability, and it has regained the status of a lot fit for auction.

It should be seen, however,

as more than that.

The transition has involved some pain and some conflict. There have been some redundancies in the North West group of factories, but in total jobs have been created in no small measure due to an imaginative programme of diversification and innovation. All this is in stark contrast to the overall decline in engineering employment over the same period. Ferranti's presence in Scotland and the NW of England has helped mitigate the

almost certain follow. Still, there is a widespread belief that Mr. Healey will win in the end.

The opposition on the Left is likely to come from Mr. Eric Heffer, who has already committed himself to standing. Mr. John Silkin, Mr. Peter Shore and possibly Mr. Anthony Wedgwood Benn. Mr. Benn's position is queried because he could decide not to run on the perfectly reasonable ground that he disapproves of the method of election. In any case, he would be unlikely to receive many votes from the Parliamentary Party.

It is impossible to say more about the first assumption at present, except that that is how the betting is going, and not only on the right of the party,

as Mr. Callaghan's position,

the best case for his staying is to allow more time for a natural

successor to emerge, and

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the temptation to run will be

strong—if only to make a mark

for the future. If one of them

breaks ranks, the others will

wrote an article for *Encounter* that was extremely critical of the Labour Party. Mr. Healey was asked to respond. "I am afraid I am too busy to comment on David Marquand's piece," he wrote to the editor. "In any case that kind of stale academicism among Labour intellectuals is one of our major problems."

Yet it is also true that when Mr. Healey does write, he does so with distinction. His contribution to the winter 1979-80 issue of *Foreign Affairs* entitled "Oil, money and recession" is a masterly summary of the problems of the market economies

whom he seems to have problems: for example, sections of the Parliamentary Party which he has never bothered to cultivate, and parts of the Press.

The common touch comes out in the dislike of theory and the readiness to use simple language. "Socialism," he said in the Sara Barker memorial lecture last year (one of the very few key Healey texts), "is a means of giving real help to real people." It may be the closest he has ever come to giving a definition. Yet he also knows more about the development of socialism in Europe and all the

without having to fight to change the Party constitution. The adoption of the SPD programme was explained later by Herr Herbert Wehner, a former Marxist who is sometimes suspected of never having changed his spots, as a policy of "adaptation to the mood of the West German voters. Whoever wants to do something here must attempt to win over the people just as they are." It is difficult to come much closer to the language of Mr. Healey talking about "meeting the real needs of real people."

The Godesberg programme contains one phrase that is the essence of pragmatism: "As much planning as necessary and as much freedom as possible." One suspects that that, too, would be Mr. Healey's approach. As he said in the Sara Barker lecture: "The fact is that we shall do best if we continue to operate a mixed economy in which the operation of market forces is controlled by the Government either through legal rules or through direct intervention. The only question is where the boundary should be set in particular cases between state intervention and the market." That "only question" is still a very big one.

The SPD, in its German way, broke with Marxism by formally voting to change the rules. Mr. Healey has probably had enough of the constitutional battles which go back to the days of Hugh Gaitskell and which have led only to trouble. He would prefer to coax and bully the Party around to living in the 1980s while leaving the constitution alone.

Yet there are still certain European lessons of which he is aware. The European socialist parties which have flourished are not those which have split. Compare the German Social Democrats, for example, to the

Glyn Genin  
Mr. Healey: intelligent, pragmatic, internationalist

ideological struggles than any other member of the House of Commons. He has remarkable international contacts. This experience would be bound to have an influence on his handling of the Labour Party.

There has been a good deal of talk over the years about Labour's Bad Godesberg. The reference is to the conference of the West German Social Democratic Party (SPD) in 1959 at which the Party reacted to successive election defeats by fundamentally changing its programme. In brief, it ceased to be Marxist and became bourgeois. It went on to attain power as a result. Sooner or later, it is said, Labour will have to have an equivalent conference, perhaps after another election defeat by Mrs. Thatcher.

Mr. Healey knows all this. Yet one suspects that what he wants is to be able to implement a Godesberg programme

come to want different things, it is the socialist party which should adjust. That is what happened in both Germany and Austria.

Of course, some of the Marxist or fundamentalist elements will remain: they do

not go away. The Left has its hands on the machine, and must have again brought Mr. Rodgers, the Shadow Defence Secretary, to the brink of resignation. But at least Mr. Healey should be given the chance to fail. He might succeed.

Malcolm Rutherford

desperate employment situation in hard hit areas of the UK.

But not all the company's activities are profitable. Some are marginal, speculative and above all innovative. They are also exactly the sort of ventures necessary if we are to avert the deindustrialisation of Great Britain.

The NEB have a role as guardian of the public interest. If their shareholding were sold there could be no guarantee that the buyers—whether institutions with little experience or knowledge of the electronics industry, or present competitors—would not abandon projects in fields such as micro-electronics and computer aided design and manufacture, on perfectly legitimate commercial grounds, with dire consequences for the long term common good.

The sale of the NEB shareholding would be not only unnecessary but unwise. The contribution to a reduction of the Public Sector Borrowing Requirement would be derisory and the contribution made to the public purse, in dividends and in taxation of both the company and its employees would be put in hazard.

We would end by quoting the 1980 Progress report of the Electronics Components sector working party.

"Our work over the last four years, however, convinces us that the need is now greater than ever to seek common solutions to common problems. Competition is a vital spur to progress, but competitive forces alone are not enough. Government support, union involvement in planning for rapid technical change, co-operation between companies to achieve rationalisation; greater communication within the industry and with other industries—these are also vital to the success of our sector, and indeed to the success of the economy as a whole."

We hope that some attention may yet be paid to such constructive thinking that the presence of the NEB is not and should not be influenced by Government will be dropped, and the sale of the NEB shareholding abandoned.

R. J. Hardie,  
EC Member of AUEW-TASS.  
R. G. D. Daigleish, Edinburgh  
District Councillor.

A. Russell, Drawing Office  
Representatives.  
W. Colquhoun,  
21, Cambridge Gardens,  
Edinburgh.

Company registration

From Mr. J. J. A. Cowdry.  
Sir—Whilst the procedure to

strike off a Company pursuant to Section 353 of the Companies Act 1948 advocated by the Registrar of Companies in his letter published June 6 may be simpler for a Company to wound up by a Liquidator, the Creditors to be paid and any surplus assets distributed.

Section 353 empowers the

Registrar to strike off the

Company and the assets if, to

the Crown, the Duchy of

Lancaster or the Duke of Corn-

wall. Thus if the Company has any assets to invoke the Section

of the Companies Act 1948, as

anyone else.

J. J. A. Cowdry.

21, Traherne Lodge,

Walpole Road,

Teddington, Middlesex.

## Machine tool malaise

From Miss Anne Daly.

Sir—As one of the authors of the National Institute's study on the machine tool industry, might I comment on recent letters regarding the training of craftsmen in Britain. I cannot accept that "time-serving" as a basis for completing apprenticeship is now no more than a "myth," as Mr. Walshe suggests (June 6). The Think Tank's recent report (p.22) also came to the conclusion that there was still a need for "objective standards to be laid down by which qualifications may be judged"; and this was fully borne out in our study of the machine tool industry.

In our study of this industry in Britain, America and Germany, we were interested in explaining current differences in productivity, and therefore in comparing the training systems that had produced the current stock of craftsmen. In Britain, the vast majority of craftsmen have undoubtedly been trained under the time-serving basis, which contrasts with the more rigorous test-based system in Germany. There may well have been improvements in the past decade in the training given under the Engineering Industry Training Board's module system: but the important point remains that in order to be recognised as a qualified craftsman in the trade, there is still no requirement for an apprentice to follow these courses, nor to pass an externally-assessed examination in the skills taught.

The passage of time is a significant condition.

The ETB courses may be well-designed, but unless appropriate economic incentives can be agreed upon to encourage their use, they can contribute little to overcoming the problems Britain faces in developing technically-advanced industries.

## Chloride profit slumps to £18.7m: dividend cut

A virtual collapse in demand for automotive batteries during the past six months in the UK and the U.S. was a major reason for the dive in pre-tax profits of the Chloride Group from £29m to £18.7m in the year to March 31, 1980.

Production was reduced and resulted in some 700 redundancies in the UK costing £2.7m, charged against the year's profit, the directors say.

**Year**

1979-80 1978-79

£m £m

Auto. sales Europe ... 155.8 142.7

Indus. sales Europe ... 147.9 134.3

Intn'l. sales ... 32.1 31.1

American ops: ...

Batteries, metals & systems ... 75.2 68.4

Overseas ops: ...

Batteries, metals, plastics & systems ...

Australia ... 25.1 25.4

America ... 32.2 29.3

Africa ... 22.3 21.3

UK companies ... 174.4 156.1

Non-UK companies ... 211.7 190.0

Total sales ... 386.1 346.1

Int'l. Europe profit ... 6.2 5.0

Int'l. Indus. profit ... 9.6 11.7

American ops: ...

Batteries, metals & systems ... 3.6 5.2

Overseas ops: ...

Batteries, metals, plastics ...

Australia ... 2.2 1.7

America ... 5.2 3.2

Africa ... 5.1 3.2

UK companies ... 15.0 17.3

Non-UK companies ... 16.9 17.4

Operating profit ... 31.9 35.3

Redundancies ... 2.7 ...

Dividends ... 1.8 1.3

Interest ... 12.3 3.2

Profit before tax ... 18.7 22.0

UK tax ... 2.8 3.2

Overseas tax ... 8.9 8.5

Net profit ... 9.0 10.5

Minority interest ... 1.7 1.4

Attributable ... 7.3 7.5

Extraord. debit ... 0.2

Dividends ... 5.1 7.8

Retained ... 2.2 9.5

The year's dividend is being cut from 6.1p to 4p per share with a 2.3p final. The reduction has been made to conserve

### HIGHLIGHTS

After a series of top level executive changes the Hill Samuel results show that the group has been hit by losses from insurance broking, but the banking side has done better and the Lex column considers the chances for progress from the group in the current year. Elsewhere Lex discusses the dividend cut by Chloride which comes against the background of a sharp decline in demand for automotive batteries. In contrast Northern Foods reports a 23 per cent increase in pre-tax profits to £14.3m for the six months to March. Finally Lex moves on to the full-year figures from British and Commonwealth showing a 7½ per cent improvement in pre-tax profits with the shipping side back into the black. On the inside pages Applied Computer Techniques, which came to the 163 market last year, pops up with an £800,000 rights issue.

funds to the extent of £3.8m, taking into account the current high interest rates, dull trading and general state of the economy.

Trading conditions are expected to remain difficult for at least the first six months of the current year, the directors add. While it is unwise to forecast too far ahead, they believe there could be some improvement for the group starting some time in the second half of 1980-81.

The directors had already warned of a possible downturn at the 1979-80 year-end due to increases in working capital as a result of inflation and time lag in adjusting stocks to the lower sales and partly due to the inability of the reduced profit to provide sufficient funding.

Capital expenditure was cut back to £18.5m—down £2.4m on the previous year.

Of the interest charge, £2.6m arose from higher interest rates and £2.6m from higher borrowing levels, mainly caused at the higher average price of lead. The increase in interest—from 7.6m to 12.3m—was offset by 10.5m due to exchange rate changes.

Lex, back Page

years, the directors say. As a result the group sold 12 per cent fewer automotive batteries in those markets. Overall lower automotive unit sales reduced operating profit by almost £4.5m.

However, other overseas operations had another excellent year with good profit increases in Australia, India and South Africa, the three largest overseas companies.

Net borrowings rose from £73m at March 31, 1979 to £93m at the 1979-80 year-end due to increases in working capital as a result of inflation and time lag in adjusting stocks to the lower sales and partly due to the inability of the reduced profit to provide sufficient funding.

Stated earnings per share are 11.9p (10.4p) before tax and 5.8p (5.8p) on a net basis. On a nil basis they are 7.1p against 10p.

The fall in demand for batteries was due to the unusually mild winter and higher interest rates which caused distributors to delay restocking.

The fall in Europe and the U.S. was the worst the industry has experienced for more than 25

years, the directors say.

He said the current year has started with a further advance in turnover and profits and the order position is very satisfactory, considering the depressed state of the economy generally." The directors intend to recommend dividends on the enlarged share capital of not less than 1.5p per share.

The company predicts that current cost accounting, which will be included in the current-year accounts, will have a favourable effect because of the recent date of acquisition of fixed assets, the use of hire purchase to finance them and the trend in recent years for the replacement cost of computers to decline.

ACT intends to seek a full listing of its ordinary shares before the end of 1980. Mr. Foster said yesterday that the company "has behaved in every way as a listed company" but has accepted the advice of its financial advisers to wait until its profits are slightly larger.

The new shares are being allotted to shareholders on the record on June 9, 1980 for acceptance not later than July 4. Fractional entitlements will be sold for the benefit of the company.

Mr. Roger Foster, managing director, said the directors and their families, who control about 50 per cent of the shares, would not be exercising "the vast majority" of their rights.

Neither he nor Mr. Lindsay Bury, the chairman, who between them hold 38 per cent, would

be taking up any of their rights.

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The group has sold its interests in Cairo to its partners in the El Shams hotel and tourism company, Arcto Sak. The total settlement provides Brent with a "healthy profit" on its investment.

AFTER a chaotic first half when profits of Staveley Industries slumped from £5.43m to £1.53m, the group made a strong recovery in the second six months and completed the year to March 31, 1980 with a pre-tax figure of £7.3m previously.

Net earnings are stated as 41.7p against 62.6p but a final dividend of 8.5p lifts the total from 12p to 13p per share.

The directors say that short of a repeat of completely unforeseen outside disturbances, as seen in the group's performance in the first half, the prospects for the current year are good. As in past years, the second six months should be better than the first.

Turnover for the year improved from £164.15m to £179.88m and of this 24.6% or 21 per cent was earned overseas, including £10.6m (£2.03m).

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The closure of one of the two pig plants from the Darlaston site, acknowledges the continuing decline in the UK market for pig iron, and at the beginning of May 1980, directors proposed the sale of the steel abrasives division to Wheelabrator Allevard.

Considering the problems that the machine tools and engineering group had to face, the results reported reflect a very creditable performance in several divisions particularly at Kearsney-Richards and Lapointe.

**• comment**  
After a rough year fraught with painful closures and substantial

(£12.72m)—shows (£1000's electrical and mechanical services, £41.93m (£24.95m) and £0.96m (£2.03m), foundry products and abrasives, £32.66m (£30.97m) and £0.95m loss (£1.29m profit), machine tools and engineering, £29.81m (£32.01m) and £1m (£2.05m), mineral products, £26.74m (£20.99m) and £0.68m (£4.96m), Salter, £12.25m (£14.67m) and £1.63m (£1.72m) and North America, £28.1m (£20.54m) and £2.50m (£0.97m).

The losses in the foundry products and abrasives group, followed the CSEFC action in the autumn of 1979, and the steel strike in the winter of 1980, as well as a depressed market combined with high prices for scrap during the first half of the year.

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losses in the foundry products and abrasives group, followed the CSEFC action in the autumn of 1979, and the steel strike in the winter of 1980, as well as a depressed market combined with high prices for scrap during the first half of the year.

The closure of one of the two pig plants from the Darlaston site, acknowledges the continuing decline in the UK market for pig iron, and at the beginning of May 1980, directors proposed the sale of the steel abrasives division to Wheelabrator Allevard.

Considering the problems that the machine tools and engineering group had to face, the results reported reflect a very creditable performance in several divisions particularly at Kearsney-Richards and Lapointe.

**• comment**  
After a rough year fraught with painful closures and substantial

### DIVIDENDS ANNOUNCED

	Date	Corrs.	Total	Div.
	Current payment	of	for	last year
Amber Indl.	2.5	Aug 4	0.64	2.5
Brit. & Cawth.	7	Aug 1	5.84	12.5
Brit. Car-Auction	1.25	July 31	—	2.5
Brit. Cinematograph	7.1	Aug 4	1.75	1.75
Caledonia Inv.	7	Aug 4	5.53	12.5
Chloride	2.3	Aug 12	4.6	6.2
Cohen	4.44	Aug 29	4.05	6.2
Crasby Spring	0.63	July 28	0.65	0.65
Dewar Group	0.24	—	0.24	0.24
Electra-Navest Trst	4	July 31	3.8	3.8
James Finlay 2nd Int.	3	Aug 28	3.75	3.75
Thomas French Int.	2	Aug 29	1.65	1.65
Mansfield Brewery	2.28	—	—	2.28
Nitin Foods Int.	2	Sept 30	—	2.28
Sainted and Sancti Int.	0.64	Aug 4	3.45	5.85
SMI Services	4.02	—	—	4.02
Staveley	3.5	Aug 4	7.51	12
The Time Warner	0.3	July 28	0.22	0.22
UKO Indl.	6.45	—	6.45	6.45
Utd. Spring Steel Int.	0.94	July 31	1.61	1.61
Yaler	1.59	—	1.59	1.59
Brent Walker	1.4	July 17	1.03	1.03

Dividends shown pence per share net except where otherwise stated.

\* Equivalent after allowing for script issues. \*\* On a 4-for-1 basis. \*\*\* Increased by rights and/or acquisition issues. t Increased to reflect increased by rights and/or acquisition issues. d Includes non-recurring payment of £1.5m.

Includes special payment of £1.5m. £ Includes special payment of £1.5m.

## Northern Foods profit up £2.8m at midway

STRUCK after a 5.4m increase in interest and depreciation, taxable profits of Northern Foods came out ahead from £12.04m to £14.81m for the six months ended March 31, 1980. Turnover surged by 9.2% to £257.4m.

Profit from liquid milk and dairy, all sides of the group's business, achieved volume increases, commented on second half profits. Mr. Nicholas Horsley, chairman, says that current trading is "fairly good; we are not disappointed."

For the whole of the 1979/80 year profits were a record £25.4m. Turnover was £23.4m.

Deposition for the first half was £5.25m against £5.22m, and net profit £3.39m compared with £3.36m.

The directors say that the rise in interest charges was due partly to the Horsley acquisition costs relating to assets leased to third parties, and to the increase in rates.

Profits included investment income, up from £480,000 to £1.5m, and were subject to tax of £4.4m (£3.6m).

Stated earnings per 25p share were 7.68p (6.4p) and the interim dividend is 2p (1.65p) net—last year's final payment was 2.85p.

The group is on the lookout for a takeover move either in the UK or the US. Mr. Horsley says directors will be looking for further expansion within the fresh food area.

He adds that the liquid milk contribution, which has been progressively reduced over recent years, will amount to less than a third this year—previous highest contribution has been 55

per cent of profits.

Since September 30, 1979, when the group had a total of some £16m in giffs, directors have sold £2m worth, and they intend to dispose of the balance.

Lex. Back Page

## Utd. Spring over £1m in first half

A DOWNTURN in the spring division was more than offset by an increased contribution from the steel side at United Spring and Steel Group, leaving the taxable surplus for the six months ended March 31, 1980, ahead from £31.5m to £1.03m.

Mr. David Westwood, chairman, says, however, that taking into account the extra working days in the second half, the unfavourable economic climate, he does not expect to match first-half results.

Profit for the whole of 1979/80 was a record £1.45m.

External sales totalled £15.12m against £15.82m and from earnings per 10p share of 4.05p (3.3p), an interim dividend of 0.94p (0.605p) net is being paid.

Turnover took £1.74m (£1.69m) leaving an attributable balance of £2.49m (£2.02m).

A final dividend of 2.275p makes a total of 3.25p (2.833p adjusted for scrip). Stated earnings per 10p share are 10p (13p equivalent).

PRE-TAX PROFITS of the Mansfield Brewery Group rose by 2.1% to £4.23m in the year to March 28. Turnover rose from £21.56m to £25.26m.

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# Row at Mersey Docks over surplus land sale

THE MERSEY Docks and Harbour Company is facing a growing revolt among its stockholders, many of whom are dissatisfied with the ailing company's performance, particularly with its failure to sell off its surplus dockland.

At yesterday's annual general meeting in Liverpool Mr. Simon Knott, a London stockbroker, tried to unseat Mr. D. I. Heyes, chairman of the stockholders' three-man advisory committee.

Under the terms of the 1974 capital reconstruction the company's debenture stock was written down by 60 per cent, and as partial compensation stockholders received £20m of redeemable subordinated unsecured loan stock.

It was intended to redeem the loan stock from the proceeds of any sales of surplus docklands. So far stockholders have received only 8p in the pound of loan stock and only 2.5p has been as a direct result of property sales.

Because of the depressed state of the property market the company has held on to the surplus land and intends to lease it for development.

Many stockholders feel this is

not in the spirit of the 1974 agreement since they will receive no direct benefit from any leasehold or rental income.

Mr. Knott and several other dissident shareholders feel the stockholders' advisory committee has not tried hard enough to persuade the Mersey Docks Company to sell off its surplus land.

Mr. Knott forced a vote on the re-election of Mr. Heyes yesterday. The result is not yet known, but Mr. Heyes had many proxy votes on his side and should win. Nevertheless, the attempt to unseat the chairman of the advisory committee symbolises the growing restiveness of stockholders.

The problem of the sale of the surplus docklands has been further complicated by the establishment of the Mersey-side Urban Development Corporation. The stockholders committee feel it should be represented on the corporation but it seems unlikely its request will be granted.

## CENTURY OILS

Century Oils has completed acquisition of the Heim de Windt group for £1.65m, satisfied by the issue of 904,436 ordinary

which have been placed on behalf of vendors.

Book value of net tangible assets of De Windt at 1979 was £1.13m and for 1978 pre-tax profit came to £1.2m on sales of £1.33.8m.

**Electra over £5.7m at year-end**

Pre-tax group earnings of Electra Investment Trust, an Electric House company, improved from £4.84m to £5.72m in the year to March 31, 1980. Gross revenue for the year was up from £5.49m to £6.54m.

After tax of £1.89m against £1.78m, stated earnings per 25p ordinary stock unit are 7.83p (£2.44p), and the final dividend is raised from 3.5p to 4p, making the total 7.5p (5.5p) which includes a special non-recurring payment of 0.5p. Dividends absorb £3.82m (£2.84m).

Net asset value per ordinary stock unit at March 31, 1980 was 155.25p (£63.75p).

## MINING NEWS

# RTZ faces the challenge of Cerro Colorado

BY KENNETH MARSTON, MINING EDITOR

LONDON'S Rio Tinto-Zinc International natural resource group is preparing to tackle what could be the biggest technical challenge that it has set so far—the huge but low grade Cerro Colorado copper deposit which sits some 800 metres to 1,500 metres above sea level on the backbone of western Panama, about 400 kilometres west of the city of Panama.

Following the recent disclosure by Sir Mark Turner, chairman of RTZ, that the group had reached agreement with Panama's Codemini state mining agency on the development of Cerro Colorado, it is now announced that RTZ has acquired a 49 per cent interest in Empres de Cobre Cerro Colorado, the operating company for the big project. The remaining 51 per cent is held by Codemini.

RTZ's stake consists of a 29 per cent interest formerly held by Codemini and the 20 per cent stake which America's Texagulf held; in return for the latter's rights RTZ is paying U.S. \$5.5m (£3.5m). But Texagulf has an option to acquire from RTZ an interest of approximately 15 per cent in the project if the agreement to go ahead is entered into.

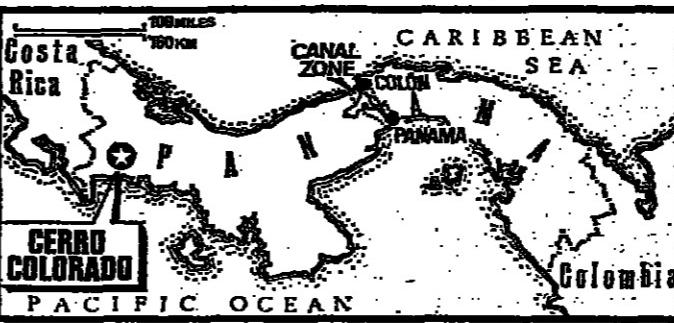
Before that stage is reached RTZ will carry out a \$10m to \$15m work programme over the next eight months to review the feasibility of the project and provide information on which decisions regarding its future should be based.

After this programme is completed it is intended that Codemini and RTZ will conclude an agreement covering the subsequent phases to the construction of the mine.

If RTZ decides to go ahead and Texagulf decides not to exercise its option the latter will receive some \$2m from RTZ to cover services rendered in connection with the eight months' work programme.

RTZ is thus paying some \$18m for the chance of finding out whether the project will be worthwhile. But this is small beer compared with what will be required to take the venture to production. It could be anything up to \$200m or so.

So if RTZ decides to go ahead and Texagulf hangs back, other



partners may be sought. Alternatively the venture might be launched on a relatively modest scale working the better grade ore, but it seems doubtful whether this would be feasible.

Back in 1971 Canadian Javelin drilled Cerro Colorado and subsequent studies indicated potential ore reserves of 1.3bn tonnes with an average grade of 0.78 per cent copper together with some molybdenum and silver in an area with an annual rainfall of some 200 inches.

But the combination of this low grade, uncertain copper prices, high capital costs and technical mining problems resulted in the intriguing deposit being left undeveloped.

Indeed, only last month Mr. Charles Barber, chairman of America's Asarcos expressed surprise at RTZ's interest in the

project. He reckoned that under present conditions it was not possible prudently to assume a copper price high enough to justify a major development of deposits of this type.

Sir Mark Turner, however, has declared that "Cerro Colorado must rank as one of the great potential mines of the future."

He is no doubt anticipating far higher copper prices in the latter part of this decade—the venture is unlikely to reach peak production before then.

Cerro Colorado may also have the important advantage of relatively cheap hydro-electric power. But it remains a challenge, just as were RTZ's successful low grade Palabora copper mine in South Africa and the Bougainville copper-gold deposit in the rain-soaked hills of Papua New Guinea.

Eastern Tractors business, it might be better than it looks. Mr. Cowie complained that he had been kept short of information on Eastern Tractors. He said the offer was going "very well."

Mr. Bingham-Wallis, managing director of Eastern Tractors, said yesterday that a merger between Ewer and Eastern Tractors had been discussed for the last three years. On the trading front he thought that this year would be difficult but looked to a return to more normal trading results in 1981.

**BROKERS LINK UP**

The London stockbroking firm of Benton, Legner & Co. has entered into an association with Thompsons, Equity and Life Brokers, a group of insurance brokers, and their plan is the aim to widen the scope of services that each offers to their respective clients.

This type of association between stockbroker and insurance broker can, it is planned, be likely to become increasingly popular. Clients of the stockbrokers, the solution lying outside the role of the stockbroker.

And insurance brokers have clients which need expert management for their portfolios, or who wish to build up their own portfolio of stocks and shares.

Benton Legner has a large private-clientele many of whom have sought advice on Capital Transfer Tax problems, in particular. Through this association both firms can now extend formally the range of planning services.

Financial Times Friday June 13 1980

## BIDS AND DEALS

# Burger King in deal with MAM

BURGER KING, the fast food chain which sells hamburgers under the trade mark, has signed a major franchising agreement with the Management Agency and Music Group.

MAM has substantial catering and entertainment interests, and the new agreement will result in the opening of at least 16 restaurants over a five year period. The project anticipates a total investment of \$5m.

The first of these restaurants will be located in the London IV area, is expected to open before the end of this year, with more scheduled for 1981.

Mr. Buddy Vassick, general manager of Burger King in the UK, said yesterday, "we are delighted to have MAM with us at this stage of our expansion in the UK, and we are currently seeking more partners for further ventures."

Burger King has recently signed three other franchise agreements. The first covers a single restaurant in Luton which will open in October; the second for six restaurants in the London

area one of which is now under construction in New Oxford Street and also opens in October.

A third agreement covers a number of restaurants in North West London.

Burger King currently operates two company-owned restaurants in London, in Victoria Street and at Coventry Street where turnover has increased by 30 per cent in the past year.

In the last financial year the Burger King Corporation opened 314 restaurants bringing the world-wide total to 1,677. It is anticipated that a further 322 restaurants will be opened during the next year.

**BISS/VERO PAYMENT**

As indicated at the time of BISS's acquisition of Vero Electronics last November, a further payment of a maximum of \$1.25m has become payable to former shareholders in Vero.

This will be satisfied by \$757,000 cash and the balance of \$588,376 by the issue of 475,266 ordinary shares.

## Exchange clears listing of new G. Ewer shares

AS THE twists and turns continued in the bitterly contested bid battle between George Ewer and T. Cowie the Stock Exchange yesterday gave the green light to the listing for the new Ewer shares, issued under the Eastern Tractors acquisition.

A last minute appeal by Cowie against the listing was dismissed and this cleared the way for the formal application to be presented. This will be made on Monday, June 16 and listing is expected to be granted on June 18.

Allowing for the dilution of the new Ewer shares, Cowie is thought to have just over 28 per cent of the shares. But Ewer was in the market again yesterday buying shares at above the offer price of \$24p. Mr. Henry Ewer, chairman of Ewer, said yesterday he thought Cowie would find it difficult to secure any further shares.

But Ewer was not the only party in the market buying shares. Barclays Merchant Bank has asked the Stock Exchange Panel to make enquiries into Ewer share purchases yesterday.

With the problem solved over the listing of the new Ewer shares, the holders must decide what action to take over the bid.

County Bank said that some strong assurances would need to be given about the future of Eastern Tractors if they were to accept. In the meantime share-holders should stay with the Ewer board which continues to oppose the bid.

Mr. Tom Cowie, chairman of T. Cowie, said yesterday that he would take a "sensible and mature look again" at the

## Belhaven completes

Belhaven Brewery has completed the sale of its Bermuda subsidiary Colonial-Cove Hotels to a company set up by Mr. Daniel Ventier, a US businessman, and associates.

The total cash consideration is \$700,000 comprising \$233,000 on completion, \$233,000 on December 31, 1980 and \$234,000 on December 31, 1981. Outstanding payments, which are guaranteed, carry interest at 12 per cent.

The consideration net of Belhaven's related borrowings of \$343,000, amounts to \$287,000, compared with net tangible assets of Colonial at April 30, 1979 attributable to Belhaven of \$430,000, and amounts due to Belhaven from Colonial at March 31, 1980, net of Belhaven's related borrowings of \$460,000.

In addition, £12,000 advanced to Colonial since March 21, 1980, will be repaid to Belhaven on

September 30, 1980.

Based on unaudited accounts for 52 weeks to March 30, 1980, Colonial has traded at a loss of £127,000. The sale proceeds will be used to reduce Belhaven's borrowings.

Mr. Eric Motley, chairman and chief executive of Belhaven said that the company is now poised to move forward with expansion into the leisure industry and hopes to have news of acquisitions shortly. Current negotiations are at an advanced stage for sale of two further hotels owned but not operated by the company.

The agreement with Scopwick Investments and the directors of C. H. Pillings & Co., a subsidiary of Scopwick, has been renegotiated, and Scopwick and Pillings will come under the complete financial and management control of Belhaven.

## London Sumatra Plantations Limited

Issued & Paid-up Capital—\$1,503,771 in 10p shares

Surplus—Harrison & Crossland, Limited

Year ended 31.12.79 31.12.78

CONSOLIDATED PROFIT & DIVIDEND

Profit after tax 15,648,309 4,765,475

Extraordinary items 686,472 2,734,514

Profit attributable to shareholders 4,981,837 2,030,861

Dividends per 10p share 8.0p 6.0p

absorbing 1,274,536 955,902

CROPS HARVESTED ('000 kg.)

Rubber 39,500 20,500

Palm Oil & Kernel 46,800 41,100

Coffee 380 500

Tan 980 800

Coco 220 140

PLANTED ACRESAGE (Subject to survey)

Rubber, Oil Palm, Coffee, Tea, Coco, Coconuts—105,315 acres

Annual General Meeting—30th July 1980

## Hartwells Group Limited

Cars and Commercial Vehicles, Agricultural Equipment, Heating Services and Fuel Oil Distribution

Year ended 29th February

Turnover 141,532 142,713

Profit before Interest & Taxation 3,955 2,722

Less Interest & Stock Finance Charges 1,094 649

Profit before Taxation 2,861 2,253

Earnings 2,467 1,934

Dividends 611 462

Earnings per Ordinary Share 23.5p 18.3p

Dividends per Ordinary Share 5.3p 5.2p

Record Year—Profits up 27% on previous year

Net Dividends (as adjusted for Capitalisation issue June 1979) up 16.7% over 1979, 63.3% over 1978.

Annual General Meeting—Oxford, 4th July, 1980. Copies of the Report and Accounts may be obtained from the Secretary, Hartwells Group Limited, Savoy Tower, West Way, Oxford OX2 0EP.

## LOFS chief not too optimistic

Although bulk carriers of London and Overseas Freighters are scheduled to produce sizeable operating surpluses, and its 18-year-old 33,152 dwt tanker is on a profitable time charter, Mr. M. E. Kulukundis, the chairman, says he cannot forecast an improvement this year on the last six months' trading.

There is no present intention of selling further ships, he tells members in his annual statement.

For the year ended March 31, 1980, following the first-half trading profit of £882,000 the group incurred a loss of £124,000 in the second six months. This reflected the marked deteriora-

tion in earnings of the large tankers in the first three months of 1980.

"Altogether it is a time for hanging on and striving to exploit the available tonnage to the best advantage—this we shall do, looking forward with confidence to the addition of new ships in the fleet in 1982, for it is not unreasonable to expect that available tanker tonnage will then more nearly match the demand," Mr. Kulukundis states.

The aud



*This certificate has been sold. This announcement appears as a matter of record only.*

New Issue

May 1980



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**KLOECKNER-HUMBOLDT-DEUTZ****Riding high on the diesel revival**

BY ROGER BOYES IN BONN

WEST GERMAN engine manufacturers could be forgiven for feeling that the oil crisis, like hanging, concentrates the mind wonderfully. The motor industry's pre-occupation with fuel economy has sparked off a trend to diesel engines which is opening up wide opportunities in the U.S. and other overseas markets.

At the hub of the diesel revival is a well-established German company whose name is almost synonymous with engine production—Kloeckner Humboldt Deutz. KHD was founded in 1884 by Herr N. A. Otto—the inventor of the carburetor and the principle of the four-stroke engine—and Herr Eugen Langen. The "Deutz" in KHD stands for the Cologne suburb where Herr Otto's first factory stood. Even today petrol engines are known as "Otto engines" in Germany.

Herr Otto's company merged with the Humboldt mechanical engineering concern in the 1920s, then the Kloeckners, an old German steel family, bought a majority shareholding in the concern. This has given KHD a broad industrial base to face the difficult post-war years and has allowed it to diversify into agricultural machinery, turnkey

industrial plant construction and commercial vehicles.

During various German engineering crises KHD has moved in and out of a number of industrial areas and, apart from lean times in the early 1970s, has consistently done well. Sales have been well above DM 3bn (\$1.7bn) for the past three years compared to DM 1bn just over a decade ago. But its profit margins are under considerable pressure.

Despite the diversification, KHD had stayed with its traditional strength of engine production, guaranteeing itself an important market niche for the 1980s. It is Germany's largest producer of diesel and gas turbine engines.

Diesel engine production is not new to Europe. Substitution of diesel oil for petrol in cars has been taking root in Germany and France, especially since the 1973 oil crisis, and diesel oil has long been the standard fuel of German trucks and buses.

But the United States is different. International Harvester, for example, has predicted that the proportion of U.S. diesel-engined trucks in the 9-11.8 tonnes range would rise from about 8 per cent in 1978

to 15 per cent this year and to 35 per cent by 1985.

This is a substantial opportunity for competitive producers of diesel engines, even if U.S. truck production is flagging. The potential has not been over-

KHD, the West German engineering company, is preparing itself for the strong trend to diesel engines in the U.S. and other overseas markets. It is, for example, setting up a network of international supply and assembly agreements and selling minority stakes.

Diesel engine production is no longer interested in producing commercial vehicles. In the early 1970s, KHD merged its commercial vehicle section with Fiat's in a new holding company, Iveco. It was intended to be a major challenger to Daimler-Benz. KHD now wants to sell its 26 per cent holding in Iveco to Fiat and completely shed its commercial vehicle interests. Fiat is complaining about the price, but KHD expects the sale to go ahead. This will free KHD to supply diesel engines to competitors of Iveco and thus capitalise fully on the diesel revival.

Iveco is committed to buying a large number of engines from KHD over the next five years.

Indians from American Motors Corporation. On the surface there seemed to be parallels with the ultimately unsuccessful efforts of MAN to take over White Motors of Cleveland.

The underlying logic was the same: the strength of the Deutsche Mark against the dollar was pushing its export prices too high while U.S. labour and production costs were significantly below Germany's.

But unlike MAN, KHD is no longer interested in producing commercial vehicles. In the early 1970s, KHD merged its commercial vehicle section with Fiat's in a new holding company, Iveco. It was intended to be a major challenger to Daimler-Benz. KHD now wants to sell its 26 per cent holding in

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Iveco is committed to buying a large number of engines from KHD over the next five years.

despite KHD's departure. Last year, KHD supplied 23,000 engines to Iveco.

Herr Hugo Liebe, KHD chairman, recently spelled out the company's strategy for the 1980s: no more minority stakes, strong sales growth partly through a network of international supply and assembly agreements, more investment in research and development to keep competitive and the modernisation of domestic works.

This is the strategy of an independent company. Herr Liebe emphasises: the market has speculated that KHD has been holding take over talks with Volkswagen. Senior executives stress that it simply does not make sense for KHD to throw in its lot with VW at this stage because it would reverse its recently won credibility.

The company, however, does not rule out some sort of agreement on research and development with a motor manufacturer. KHD is currently testing the effects of alternative fuels for its engines and has already produced a "diesel

modified for a methanol-based fuel.

**Sharp rise  
in sales  
at Huels**

By Jonathan Carr in Bonn

**CHEMISCHE WERKE HUELS** (CWH), the key chemicals subsidiary of the Veba energy concern, reports sharply increased sales for the first five months of 1980 and expects "satisfactory profits" for the year as a whole.

Dr Karl Moenckmeier, the chairman, said group turnover had risen in January-May by 25.4 per cent to DM 25.8bn (\$14.5bn) and that of the parent company by 25.1 per cent to DM 2.1bn.

Profits for the first quarter were "satisfactory" but not specified, although there had been some slowdown since. A double figure dividend for 1980 was likely, but there were uncertainties on how far increased energy costs could be passed on in higher prices.

At this time last year Huels also expressed misgivings about business in the second half—but its final 1979 figures show a highly positive result.

Net profit for 1979 increased sharply from DM 17.3m to DM 34.1m. A transfer of DM 34.3m has been made to reserves, and a 14 per cent dividend is being paid. Both group and parent company sales virtually doubled, the former to DM 5.5bn and the latter to DM 4.6bn.

The spectacular growth rates are partly the result of the restructuring of Veba's chemicals interests, which have placed more production activities under the Huels umbrella. But they also indicate that the company is having marked success in its trend to greater product specialisation—a policy also reflected in its purchase of a stake in Roehm, the Darmstadt-based plexiglass manufacturer.

• E. MERCK, the Darmstadt-based pharmaceuticals concern, expects world sales growth of about 10 per cent this year after a rise of 8.9 per cent to DM 1.8bn in 1979. The company is planning 1980 investment of at least DM 150m, of which \$25m alone will be in the U.S.

**First quarter  
growth at UCB**

By Our Financial Staff

TRADING AT UCB, the Belgian group whose activities range from chemicals to packaging and films, has been maintained at a favourable level during the first quarter of 1980.

All group divisions have produced good results in the wake of the strong recovery that occurred last year and helped to more than treble 1974 profits.

However, trading during subsequent months has slackened. European chemical demand has fallen off noticeably since March and signs of weakness have crept into the group's film operations in the UK. Pharmaceuticals have remained strong.

Last year UCB achieved profits before tax of BFr 473m (\$17m) up from BFr 151m and a final dividend of BFr 80 a share restored shareholders' total payment to the BFr 150 level last seen three years earlier.

**Hoechst sells sunglasses  
producer to subsidiary**

BY TERRY DODSWORTH IN PARIS

HOECHST, the French pharmaceuticals company, plans to become one of the world's leading sunglasses manufacturing groups through the acquisition of Foster Grant in the U.S. for about FF 102m (\$62.5m). Both Uclaf and Foster Grant are owned by West German chemicals group, Hoechst.

The deal follows only a few months after the French company bought an 80 per cent stake in Société d'Application des Matières Plastiques, the producer of the Solar range of sunglasses and goggles, which is claimed to be the third largest European company in its sector.

Foster Grant is reckoned to have an even more dominant position in the U.S. mass market, controlling about 30 per cent of sales.

Roussel-Uclaf, with more than half of its current sales overseas, has been following a vigorous policy of foreign expansion.

But the agreement with Foster

Grant also falls within the framework of a reorganisation in the interests of Hoechst, which has a 58 per cent stake in Roussel-Uclaf.

With these new acquisitions, Roussel-Uclaf is predicting rapid expansion in its business to a turnover of FF 75m in 1982, compared with FF 4.5m last year.

While profits rose only marginally last year to FF 107m on consolidated basis, the company had a cash flow of FF 28m which it says should largely enable it to finance expansion in its traditional areas of business, such as chemicals, health and veterinary products.

A capital increase last year from FF 334m to FF 445m has helped take care of any financial worries it might have in funding its external growth.

The company added that investments are to be maintained at the rate of about FF 300m a year.

**Restructuring for Spanish textile group**

BY ROBERT GRAHAM IN MADRID

AFTER MORE than two years of negotiation a Government-sponsored agreement has been reached on the future of Intelhorce, the largest textile manufacturer in southern Spain, whose accumulated losses total about \$150m.

One of the principal elements of the agreement involves a write off by the shareholders, mainly Banco de Madrid and Cadesbank, of Pts 7.5bn (\$107m) of borrowings plus a write down of Pts 3bn (\$42.8m) capital to a nominal single peseta.

The agreement has been made possible by the absorption last month by Spain's leading bank,

Banesto, of the Banco de Madrid and the refloating of Cadesbank. The accumulated losses at Intelhorce had been the principal burden on the two banks.

In addition, a further Pts 5.4bn (\$37.8m) of outstanding debts is to be restructured and refinanced. The Government has undertaken to find new operating capital for the company.

It is likely that the state holding company INI will be obliged to buy out the company since the Government has undertaken to retain its 2,870 workers at the Intelhorce plant in Malaga.

The fate of Intelhorce has aroused tremendous passion in Southern Spain where the company is the largest industrial employer. The company was established in 1957 by INI following pressure by regional authorities to lessen the Costa del Sol's dependence upon tourism.

In 1972 INI sold out a number of Spanish textile interests which included Cadesbank and the Castell group which was linked to Banco de Madrid.

Trade unions insisted that the company be sold to a powerful Barcelona textile lobby which felt Intelhorce's lower labour costs and

modern machinery was providing too much competition. After the sale Intelhorce's administration and marketing operations were transferred to Barcelona.

In the late 1970s Intelhorce began to run into financial difficulties due to competition from developing country exports. This led to moves in early 1980 to sell the company back to INI. At first the Government opposed the idea.

However, the difficulties Intelhorce created for its main shareholders has ultimately obliged the Government to intervene.

## City Developments S\$65m rights to fund diversification

BY GEORGE LEE IN SINGAPORE

CITY DEVELOPMENTS, one of Singapore's bigger property developers, has announced rights issue of new shares for every three held, at a price of S\$1.80 per share, to finance diversification into the hotel industry and other investment projects.

Together with its announcement of the rights issue, which will raise some S\$65m (US\$ 30.42m) for City Developments, the property group disclosed that it has agreed to acquire a 64.5 per cent stake in Orchid Inn, which sits on 18,152 square metres of freehold land in Singapore is undergoing a major expansion which will raise its present capacity of 122 rooms to 321 rooms by the end of next year.

The total cost of the expansion, estimated at S\$15.2m will be borne by City Developments, thus raising its total investment in Orchid Inn to S\$86.7m.

Orchid Inn reported pre-tax profits of S\$477,000 (US\$ 344,444) for the year ended November 1979. However, the current year's profit is not expected to exceed this figure in view of the hotel's reduced capacity while construction is in progress.

Substantial shareholders of City Developments have agreed to subscribe to 55.1 per cent of the proposed rights issue. Morgan Grenfell Asia will underwrite the balance of the issue.

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In accordance with the provisions of the Notes and Agent Bank Agreement between Sumitomo Heavy Industries, Ltd., The Sumitomo Bank, Limited and Citibank, N.A., dated 5th September, 1978, notice is hereby given that the Rate of Interest for the Interest Period has been fixed at 9.1% p.a. and that the interest payable on the relevant Interest Payment Date, 15th September, 1980 against Coupon No. 4 in respect of U.S.\$25,000 nominal amount of the Notes will be U.S.\$602.95 and has been computed on the actual number of days elapsed (82) divided by 360.

15th June, 1980  
By: Citibank, N.A., London,  
Agent Bank

CITIBANK

## Offer by Bank of NSW subsidiary

SYDNEY — The Bank of New South Wales subsidiary, Australian Guarantee Corporation, said that it is offering debentures and unsecured notes with coupons ranging from 9.5 per cent to 12.25 per cent compared with 9.5 per cent to 11.75 per cent on its previous series.

The company said that it will issue A\$7.80m (US\$283.18m) of the debentures and notes, with a maximum of A\$70m more of over subscriptions.

It said that it is issuing preference debentures with maturities of one year at 10.75 per cent against 10.50 per cent for its previous series, two years at 11.50 per cent (11.25 per cent), three and four years at 12.25 per cent (11.75 per cent) and five years at 12 per cent (11.50 per cent).

It will offer unsecured notes for three months and those at call at 9.5 per cent (same), for one year at 11.25 per cent (11.0 per cent) and for two years at 12.25 per cent (11.5 per cent).

The company added it will also offer first charge debentures with compound interest for up to 10 years with rates of up to 12.25 per cent. Reuter

## Advance by Yeo Hiap Seng

SINGAPORE — Yeo Hiap Seng, the food and beverage group, posted a 24.9 per cent gain in pre-tax profits for the half year to March 31, to S\$5.2m (US\$2.45m) over the year-earlier period. Sales advanced by 16.2 per cent to S\$28.6m (US\$13.45m). However, the company has declared an interim dividend of 7 Singapore cents, down from 10 Singapore cents a year earlier.

The company said the improvement in group sales was due particularly to overseas operations.

AP DJ

## COMMERCIAL BANKS IN BAHRAIN

## A tougher year for profits

BY MARY FRINGS IN BAHRAIN

THE BAHRAIN BRANCH of Grindlays Bank showed a 90 per cent improvement in profit to BD 450,000 (\$1.2m) in 1979, according to figures for the commercial banking market released by the Bahrain Monetary Agency. But its return on average assets was only 1.78 per cent, in a difficult financial climate which pared margins to a minimum. Eight other branches of international banks did less well than in 1978.

The 19 commercial banks reporting to the BMA, one more than in 1978, recorded total assets of BD 945m (\$2.5bn), an increase of 16 per cent. Profits amounted to BD 15.7m (\$4.2m) compared with BD 1.0m in the previous year, but the bulk of the increase was extraordinary income collected by the three locally-incorporated banks on offshore share issues. Without this special factor, overall profitability is likely to have been lower than in 1978. The three local banks together accounted for 57.8 per cent of the total assets and 66 per cent of the profits.

Bank of Bahrain and Kuwait (BBK) was top of the table in terms of size, for the first time outstripping its longer-established rival, National Bank of Bahrain, although it must be borne in mind that BBK consolidates the results of its Bahrain operation with both the offshore banking unit and the branch in Kuwait. BBK showed a 38 per cent increase in net ordinary income, and a return

on average assets of 2.13 per cent. Some banks claim the figures reported to the BMA for branches of major internationals are of no value in assessing performance. This is the case with Cisbank, which has a commercial bank, an off-

Continental Bank, incorporated in the Cayman Islands as a joint venture between Continental Illinois National Bank and Trust Company and Bahraini interests, has shown a loss in each of its three years of operation, although there was a marginal improvement in

## COMMERCIAL BANKS IN BAHRAIN

	1979 profit BD 000	Change %	Assets BDm	Return on assets %
Al-Ahli Commercial	894	(first year)	24.01	6.11
Banque du Caire	141	+1	3.24	3.69
Chase Manhattan	209	-45	7.40	3.17
Hanover Bank	316	+34	10.16	3.11
Rafidain	117	-2	5.41	2.17
Bank of Bahrain & Kuwait	5,762	+28	375.54	2.13
Chartered Bank	1,909	+16	9.63	2.04
United Bank	400	-15	23.52	1.79
Grindlays Bank	450	+91	37.11	1.78
National Bank of Bahrain	3,680	+26	201.9	1.49
Arab Bank	250	+35	15.52	1.65
Brit. Bank of Middle East	896	+27	53.84	1.54
Paribas	146	-29	11.86	1.31
Algemeene Bank Nederland	89	-76	9.54	1.08
Bank Saderat Iran	147	-69	12.07	1.07
National Bank of Abu Dhabi	68	-55	10.29	0.76
Bank Mellat Iran	257	+55	40.62	0.65
Citibank	63	-89	56.52	0.11
Continental Bank	* 101	+5	5.75	-1.70

\* Loss. † Against loss of BD 106,000 in 1978.

shore banking unit (OBU), and 1979 from a loss of BD 106,000 to a loss of BD 101,000. One view is that Continental's role in the market, as a wholesale bank, was snatched away by the influx of more than 50 OBUs, many of them with far greater capital strength. Negotiations are going on between the shareholders, and there may be changes in structure before the end of the year.

Chase Manhattan still shows a good rate of return at 3.17 per cent, but actual profit fell 48 per cent to BD 209,000.

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BY P. C. MAHANTI IN CALCUTTA

THE United Bank of India, the 10th largest public sector bank, and the 10th largest commercial bank in India, has achieved a better rate of deposit growth in 1979 than the banking industry as a whole.

Deposits went up during the year to Rs 11.67bn (\$1.5bn) from Rs 9.5bn, a growth rate of 21.5 per cent against the industry average of 18 per cent.

However, the United Bank's growth rate in advances of 13.2 per cent, though appreciably higher than the previous years 10.7 per cent was lower than the industry average of 16.4 per

cent. Mr. Susanta Niogi, the chairman and managing director, attributes the limited growth in advances to the bank's strict compliance with the Reserve Bank's directive to observe a high degree of discipline in lending.

For the banking industry as a whole, growth rates in both deposits and advances were sharply lower than those of the previous year, which were 24.5 per cent and 20.7 per cent respectively.

Despite the lower growth rate in advances, United Bank earned a higher profit of 16.4 per cent. For the banking industry as a whole, growth rates in both deposits and advances were sharply lower than those of the previous year, which were 24.5 per cent and 20.7 per cent respectively.

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For the banking industry as a whole, growth rates in both deposits and advances

## CURRENCIES, MONEY and GOLD

## B) WORLD VALUE OF THE DOLLAR

Bank of America NT &amp; SA, Economics Department, London

The table below gives the rates of exchange for the U.S. dollar against various currencies as of Wednesday, June 11, 1980. The Exchange rates listed are middle rates between buying and selling rates as quoted between banks, unless otherwise indicated. All currencies are quoted in foreign currency units per one U.S. dollar except in certain specified areas. All rates quoted are indicative. They are not based on, and are not intended to be used as a basis for, particular transactions.

Bank of America NT and SA does not undertake to trade in all listed foreign currencies, and neither Bank of America NT and SA nor the Financial Times assume responsibility for errors.

COUNTRY	CURRENCY	VALUE OF DOLLAR	COUNTRY	CURRENCY	VALUE OF DOLLAR	COUNTRY	CURRENCY	VALUE OF DOLLAR
Afghanistan	Afghani (O)	44.00	Greenland	Danish Krone	5.4785	Papua N. Guinea	Kina	0.67
Albania	Lek	3.6325	E. Caribbean \$	4.1105	Paraguay	Guanaro	127.50	
Algeria	Dinar	4.1105	Peru	Soles	1.00	Yemen, Rep.	Yemeni Dinar	0.3415
Andorra	(French Franc)	69.925	Guatemala	Quetzal	1.00	Yemen	S. Yemeni Dinar	0.3415
Antigua	East Caribbean \$	2.7025	Guinea	Guinean Franc	35.6110	Philippines	Peso	1.72155
Argentina	Argentine Peso	168.200	Gulf of Bothnia	Sw. Kr.	18.672	Portuguese Islands	MZ. Escudo	1.2025
Antigua	Argentine Peso	168.200	Guyana	Guyanese \$	2.5647	Poland	Zloty (O)	31.00
Australia	Australian \$	0.6724	Haiti	Gourde	5.00	Portugal	Port. Escudo	48.95
Austria	Austrian \$	1.0506	Honduras Repub.	Lempira	2.00	Port Timor	Timor Escudo	0.8
Azores	Schilling	48.55	Hong Kong	H.K. \$	4.95	Puerto Rico	U.S. \$	1.00
Bahamas	Bahamian \$	1.00	Hungary	Forint (O)	32.6022	Qatar	Qatar Riyal	5.875
Bahrain	Dinar	0.3778	Iceland	I. Krona	492.70	Reunion Is. (Fr.)	French Franc	4.1105
Baleares Is.	Spanish Peseta	69.925	India	Rupee	625.55	Romania	Leu	4.47
Bangladesh	Taka	14.7006	Iran	Rial	74.00	Rwanda	Rwandan Franc	92.94
Barbados	Dollars	2.01	Iraq	Iraqi Dinar	0.2965	Saint Christopher	E. Caribbean \$	2.7025
Belgium	E. Franc (O)	28.298	Ireland	Irish Republic	1.00	S. Lucia	E. Caribbean \$	0.7025
Belize	E. Franc (O)	22.605	Iraq	Iraqi Dinar	0.2965	S. Vincent	E. Caribbean \$	2.7025
Benin	O.F.A. Franc	1.00	Ivory Coast	Ivory Coast Pound (O)	47.45	Samoa American	U.S. \$	1.00
Bermuda	Bds \$	1.00	Jamaica	Jamaican Dollar	1.7855	San Marino	Italian Lira	0.5000
Bhutan	Indian Rupees	7.6555	Japan	Yen	215.65	San Marino	Italian Lira	0.5000
Bolivia	U.S. Mon Peso	8.50	Jordan	Jordan Dinar	0.3945	Sao Tome & Principe	E. Caribbean \$	0.5000
Bolivia	Pesos	0.791	Kampuchea	Riel	n.a.	Senegal	O. F. A. Franc	0.5000
Brazil	Crucero	60.71	Kenya	Shilling	7.8069	Seychelles	S. Rupee	0.5000
Brit. Virgin Is.	U.S. \$	1.00	Khanda (Pak.)	Rs.	583.00	Sierra Leone	Leone	0.5000
Bulgaria	Lev	1.29	Korea (S. Korea)	Won	0.5675	Solomon Islands	S. I. \$	0.5000
Burma	Kyat	9.7271	Kuwait	Kuwaiti Dinar	0.5675	South Africa	Rand	0.5000
Burundi	Burundi Franc	90.00	Lao P.D.R.	Kip of Lib.	400.00	Spain	Peseta	0.5000
Cameroon Rapido's	O.F.A. Franc	205.585	Lebanon	Lebanese Pound	5.3912	S. P. R. (S. L. Rupee)	Sp. Peseta	0.5000
Canary Islands	Spanish Peseta	69.925	Lesotho	Lot	0.7761	Sudan	Republic	0.5000
Cape Verde Is.	Cape V. Escudo	35.51	Liberia	Liberian \$	0.2964	Sudan	Pound (O)	0.5000
Cayman Islands	Cay. Is. \$	0.835	Lichtenstein	Swiss Franc	28.892	Sudan	Pound (O)	0.5000
Cant. Ar. Rep.	Arg. Peso	205.585	Macao	MG. Franc	5.205	Switzerland	Swiss Franc	0.5000
Chile	O.F.A. Franc	59.00	Madagascar	Portuguese Escudo	1.00	Syria	Syria Pound	0.5000
China	Renminbi Yuan	1.4907	Malta	Malta Franc	41.105	Taiwan	New Taiwan (O.)	0.5000
Colombia	Col. Peso (O)	41.05	Macao	Portuguese Escudo	41.105	Tanzania	Tan. Shilling	0.5000
Comoro Islands	E. Caribbean \$	205.525	Madagascar	Portuguese Escudo	41.105	Thailand	Baht	0.5000
Congo (Brazzaville)	O.F.A. Franc	205.525	Madagascar	Portuguese Escudo	41.105	Togo	Franc (O.)	0.5000
Costa Rica	Colon	0.57	Maldives	Maldives	2.153	Tunisia	Tunisian Dinar	0.5000
Cuba	Peso	0.525	Mali	Ruppes	5.85	Turkey	Lira	0.5000
Cyprus	Cyp. Pound	0.3529	Mali Republic	Mal. Franc	41.105	Tuvalu	Tuvaluan \$	0.5000
Czechoslovakia	Koruna (O)	0.50	Mauritania	Local Franc	41.105	Uganda	Uganda Shilling	0.5000
Dem. Rep. S. O'Tome & Principe	S. O'Tome & Principe	34.2273	Mauritius	Ougulya	4.1025	Uganda	Uganda Shilling	0.5000
Denmark	Danish Krone	5.4785	Mauritius	Rs.	4.1025	United Arab Emir.	UAE Dirham	0.5000
Dom. Rep. of. Dominican Rep.	Dominican \$	1.00	Mauritius	Rs.	4.1025	United Kingdom	£ Sterling	0.5000
Dominican Rep.	E. Caribbean \$	2.7025	Mauritius	Rs.	4.1025	Vatican	Italian Lira	0.5000
Dominican Repub.	Dominican Peso	1.00	Micronesia	Federated States	66.487	Venezuela	Bolivar	0.5000
Ecuador	Sucre	28.10	Micronesia	Federated States	66.487	Vietnam N.	Dong (O.)	0.5000
Egypt	Pound (O.)	0.6945	Mongolia	Monaco	1.0183	Virgin Islands U.S. U.S. \$	Ruble	0.5000
El Salvador	Colon	2.58	Morocco	French Franc	2.0105	Western Samoa	Samoan Tala	0.5000
Eritrea	birr (O.)	2.0855	Morocco	French Franc	2.0105	Yemen	Rial	0.5000
Faroe Islands	Danish Krone	2.37	Namibia	Rand	0.7781	Yugoslavia	New Y. Dinar	0.5000
Fiji Islands	Fiji \$	2.8111	Nepal	Nepalese Rupee	12.00	Zaire	Zaire	0.5000
Finland	Markka	3.549	Netherlands	Dutch Guilder	2.5343	Zaire Republic	Zaire	0.5000
France	French Franc	205.525	New Hebrides	Aust. \$	1.00	Zambia	Kwacha	0.5000
French Guiana	O.F.A. Franc	4.1105	New Zealand	NZ \$	0.8724	Zimbabwe	Zim \$	0.5000
French Pacific Is.	O.F.P. Franc	205.525	Nicaragua	Nicar. Franc	0.5803	Zimbabwe	Zim \$	0.5000
Gabon	O.F.A. Franc	2.75	Niger	Naira (O.)	4.845	Zimbabwe	Zim \$	0.5000
Germany (East)	Ostmark (O)	1.7625	Nigeria	Naira (O.)	0.3466	Zimbabwe	Zim \$	0.5000
Germany (West)	Deutschmark	1.7625	Norway	Krone	1.9786	Zimbabwe	Zim \$	0.5000
Ghana	Cedi	2.75	Oman, Sultanate of	Rial Oman	0.3466	Zimbabwe	Zim \$	0.5000
Greece	Drachma	2.37	Pakistan	Pkr. Rupee	9.91	Zimbabwe	Zim \$	0.5000
Greece	Drachma	42.80	Panama	Balboa	1.00	Zimbabwe	Zim \$	0.5000

(1) Sudan—Official rate for specified exports and imports. (2) Sudan—Official rate for all transactions except specified exports and imports.

(3) Egypt—a different rate applies to certain transactions with non-IMF countries.

(4) Israeli Government is changing their currency to Shekels. However dollars are currently quoting in pounds.

(5) Iranian Rial is now fixed at 92.3 per SDR effective 22/5/80. Mkt. rate 74.00.

Companies  
and Markets

## \$ &amp; £ soft

The dollar was slightly weaker in all day foreign exchange trading yesterday. Sterling had a generally soft undertone but finished unchanged at 73.7 on a trade-weighted basis, according to the Bank of England, after opening at 74.0 but declining to 73.7 at noon. There was no sustained selling of the pound, but the market lacked buying interest. Sterling fell quite sharply at one time in the morning, touching a low of \$2.330-2.340, after a peak of \$2.340-2.347. The reason for the fall appeared to centre on news of a cut in Bank of England Money Lending Rate which proved to be needless, but the general lack of buying probably reflects expectations of a cut in MLR in the near future. The pound quickly recovered, however, and closed at \$2.330-2.340, a rise of 50 points on the day.

Further cuts in U.S. banks prime lending rates depressed the dollar. The U.S. currency's trade-weighted index, as calculated by the Bank of England, fell to 82.3 from 82.34. The dollar fell to DM 1.7625 from DM 1.7645 against the D-mark; to Swf 1.8250 from Swf 1.8285 against the Swiss franc; and to ¥1.2175 from ¥1.2175 in terms of the Japanese yen.

D-MARK—Showing a renewed strength against the dollar and steady within the European Monetary System, following further rates in Frankfurt, and lower U.S. interest rates. The D-mark lost ground against most major currencies at the Frankfurt fixing, although the Swiss franc eased to DM 1.7450 from DM 1.7475. The D-mark fell to 16.0152 from 16.0152, and the French franc to 8.8750 from 8.8817.

JAPANESE YEN—Energy and balance of payments problems reflected in sharp decline last year. More recently lower U.S. interest rates have helped the yen recover. Fears of political instability following the death of the Japanese Prime Minister depressed the yen in heavy foreign exchange trading. The dollar improved to DM 1.1240 from DM 1.1190, but eased slightly from the early morning level of DM 1.1230. Within the EMS the yen rose to ¥121.75 from ¥121.50, after opening at ¥121.50.

Changes are for ECU, therefore positive change denotes a week currency. Adjustment calculated by Financial Times.

Note given for Argentina is free rate.

The fixing rates are the arithmetic mean, rounded to the nearest one-sixteenth, of the bid and offered rates for \$1m quoted by the market to five reference banks at 11 am each working day. The banks are National Westminster Bank, Bank of Tokyo, Deutsche Bank, Banque Nationale de Paris, and Morgan-Guzzi Trust.

EURO-CURRENCY INTERBANK FIXING (11.00 a.m. JUNE 12)

3 month U.S. dollars	6 month U.S. dollars	The fixing rates are the arithmetic mean, rounded to the nearest one-sixteenth, of the bid and offered rates for \$1m quoted by the market to five reference banks at 11 am each working day. The banks are National Westminster Bank, Bank of Tokyo, Deutsche Bank, Banque Nationale de Paris, and Morgan-Guzzi Trust.
bid 9 1/16	offer 9 3/16	bid 9 1/4

The following nominal rates were quoted for London dollar certificates of deposit: one-month 8.65-8.75 per cent; one year 8.75-8.85 per cent.

Long-term Eurodollar rates 10%-10% per cent; three years 10%-10% per cent; four years 10%-10% per cent; five years 10%-11% per cent; nominal closing rates.

Short-term rates are for sterling, U.S. dollars, Canadian dollars and Japanese yen; others two-days notice. Asian rates are closing rates in Singapore.

INTERNATIONAL MONEY MARKET

## Europe rates steady

Interest rates showed little overall change in Europe yesterday, with Paris call money unchanged at 124 per cent and Frankfurt

## Companies and Markets

## WORLD STOCK MARKETS

## NEW YORK

	Stock	June 11	June 10	Stock	June 11	June 10	Stock	June 11	June 10	Stock	June 11	June 10	Stock	June 11	June 10
• Aeronautics	401a	404a	407a	GT Att Pac. Tel.	47a	5	Mass Petroleum	37a	55a	Schiff Brew J.	7a	7a	Canada	7a	7a
Alcoa Ind.	161a	162a	163a	GT Basins Pet.	12a	12a	Schlumberger	118a	117	Shares tended to improve			Hongkong Telephone	7a	7a
Alcoa Ind.	164a	165a	166a	GT West Financ.	21a	21a	Milton Bradley	201a	202a	Shuttle Brew J.	117	117	moved 70 cents to HK\$25.50,		
Alcoa Ind.	167a	168a	169a	Greyhound	161a	154a	Scott Paper	161a	164	World International 12.5 cents			World International 12.5 cents		
Alcoa Ind.	170a	171a	172a	Gruuman	24a	24a	Southern Duo V.	119a	119a	ahead in active trading on news			Binimura gold prospect forged		
Alcoa Ind.	173a	174a	175a	Gulf & Western	167a	177a	Sea Coms	204a	204a	that a front-in arrangement had			ahead in active trading on news		
Alcoa Ind.	176a	177a	178a	Gulf Oil	4	4	Seaboard Corp.	204a	204a	been negotiated with Esso.			Suzanne Exploration jumped		
Alcoa Ind.	179a	180a	181a	Globe	21a	8	Seafood Coms	21a	21a	55 cents to AS1.75, Suzanne 25			55 cents to AS1.75 and Bakal		
Alcoa Ind.	182a	183a	184a	Comp. Science	21a	8	Sealed Power	18a	18	cents to AS1.75 and Bakal			Minerals 15 cents to 50 cents.		
Alcoa Ind.	185a	186a	187a	Conn. Min.	341a	341a	Seale (G)	23a	23a	speculations, the three partners			speculations, the three partners		
Alcoa Ind.	188a	189a	190a	Conn Gen. Ins.	351a	351a	Sears Roebuck	164a	164a	in the North Queensland			in the North Queensland		
Alcoa Ind.	191a	192a	193a	Conn Group	52a	52a	Seashell Lvs.	164a	164a	Binimura gold prospect forged			Binimura gold prospect forged		
Alcoa Ind.	194a	195a	196a	Conn Edison	94a	94a	Shell Oil	86a	86a	ahead in active trading on news			ahead in active trading on news		
Alcoa Ind.	197a	198a	199a	Conn Foods	24a	24a	Shell Trans.	57a	57a	that a front-in arrangement had			that a front-in arrangement had		
Alcoa Ind.	200a	201a	202a	Conn Freight	23a	23a	Sherrwin-Wins.	54a	54a	been negotiated with Esso.			been negotiated with Esso.		
Alcoa Ind.	203a	204a	205a	Conn Gas	201a	201a	Signode	55a	55a	55 cents to AS1.75, Suzanne 25			55 cents to AS1.75 and Bakal		
Alcoa Ind.	206a	207a	208a	Conn Life & Cas.	204a	204a	Simplicity Path.	9a	9a	cents to AS1.75 and Bakal			cents to AS1.75 and Bakal		
Alcoa Ind.	209a	210a	211a	Conn Net	27a	27a	Skyline	12a	11a	Minerals 15 cents to 50 cents.			Minerals 15 cents to 50 cents.		
Alcoa Ind.	212a	213a	214a	Conn P&G	27a	27a	Smith Int'l.	51a	40a	speculations, the three partners			speculations, the three partners		
Alcoa Ind.	215a	216a	217a	Conn Prod. & Gm.	52a	52a	Smith Kline	28a	28a	in the North Queensland			in the North Queensland		
Alcoa Ind.	218a	219a	220a	Conn Recruit.	25a	25a	Sociedad Econ.	29a	29a	Binimura gold prospect forged			Binimura gold prospect forged		
Alcoa Ind.	221a	222a	223a	Conn Tech.	12a	12a	Southern Bank	16a	16a	ahead in active trading on news			ahead in active trading on news		
Alcoa Ind.	224a	225a	226a	Conn Tele.	12a	12a	Southwest Bank	15a	15a	that a front-in arrangement had			that a front-in arrangement had		
Alcoa Ind.	227a	228a	229a	Conn Tele.	12a	12a	Southwest Bank	15a	15a	been negotiated with Esso.			been negotiated with Esso.		
Alcoa Ind.	230a	231a	232a	Conn Tele.	55a	55a	Standard Bank	15a	15a	55 cents to AS1.75, Suzanne 25			55 cents to AS1.75 and Bakal		
Alcoa Ind.	233a	234a	235a	Conn Tele.	55a	55a	Standard Bank	15a	15a	cents to AS1.75 and Bakal			cents to AS1.75 and Bakal		
Alcoa Ind.	236a	237a	238a	Conn Tele.	55a	55a	Standard Bank	15a	15a	Minerals 15 cents to 50 cents.			Minerals 15 cents to 50 cents.		
Alcoa Ind.	239a	240a	241a	Conn Tele.	55a	55a	Standard Bank	15a	15a	speculations, the three partners			speculations, the three partners		
Alcoa Ind.	242a	243a	244a	Conn Tele.	55a	55a	Standard Bank	15a	15a	in the North Queensland			in the North Queensland		
Alcoa Ind.	245a	246a	247a	Conn Tele.	55a	55a	Standard Bank	15a	15a	Binimura gold prospect forged			Binimura gold prospect forged		
Alcoa Ind.	248a	249a	250a	Conn Tele.	55a	55a	Standard Bank	15a	15a	ahead in active trading on news			ahead in active trading on news		
Alcoa Ind.	251a	252a	253a	Conn Tele.	55a	55a	Standard Bank	15a	15a	that a front-in arrangement had			that a front-in arrangement had		
Alcoa Ind.	254a	255a	256a	Conn Tele.	55a	55a	Standard Bank	15a	15a	been negotiated with Esso.			been negotiated with Esso.		
Alcoa Ind.	257a	258a	259a	Conn Tele.	55a	55a	Standard Bank	15a	15a	55 cents to AS1.75, Suzanne 25			55 cents to AS1.75 and Bakal		
Alcoa Ind.	260a	261a	262a	Conn Tele.	55a	55a	Standard Bank	15a	15a	cents to AS1.75 and Bakal			cents to AS1.75 and Bakal		
Alcoa Ind.	263a	264a	265a	Conn Tele.	55a	55a	Standard Bank	15a	15a	Minerals 15 cents to 50 cents.			Minerals 15 cents to 50 cents.		
Alcoa Ind.	266a	267a	268a	Conn Tele.	55a	55a	Standard Bank	15a	15a	speculations, the three partners			speculations, the three partners		
Alcoa Ind.	269a	270a	271a	Conn Tele.	55a	55a	Standard Bank	15a	15a	in the North Queensland			in the North Queensland		
Alcoa Ind.	272a	273a	274a	Conn Tele.	55a	55a	Standard Bank	15a	15a	Binimura gold prospect forged			Binimura gold prospect forged		
Alcoa Ind.	275a	276a	277a	Conn Tele.	55a	55a	Standard Bank	15a	15a	ahead in active trading on news			ahead in active trading on news		
Alcoa Ind.	278a	279a	280a	Conn Tele.	55a	55a	Standard Bank	15a	15a	that a front-in arrangement had			that a front-in arrangement had		
Alcoa Ind.	281a	282a	283a	Conn Tele.	55a	55a	Standard Bank	15a	15a	been negotiated with Esso.			been negotiated with Esso.		
Alcoa Ind.	284a	285a	286a	Conn Tele.	55a	55a	Standard Bank	15a	15a	55 cents to AS1.75, Suzanne 25			55 cents to AS1.75 and Bakal		
Alcoa Ind.	287a	288a	289a	Conn Tele.	55a	55a	Standard Bank	15a	15a	cents to AS1.75 and Bakal			cents to AS1.75 and Bakal		
Alcoa Ind.	290a	291a	292a	Conn Tele.	55a	55a	Standard Bank	15a	15a	Minerals 15 cents to 50 cents.			Minerals 15 cents to 50 cents.		
Alcoa Ind.	293a	294a	295a	Conn Tele.	55a	55a	Standard Bank	15a	15a	speculations, the three partners			speculations, the three partners		
Alcoa Ind.	296a	297a	298a	Conn Tele.	55a	55a	Standard Bank	15a	15a	in the North Queensland			in the North Queensland		
Alcoa Ind.	299a	300a	301a	Conn Tele.	55a	55a	Standard Bank	15a	15a	Binimura gold prospect forged			Binimura gold prospect forged		
Alcoa Ind.	302a	303a	304a	Conn Tele.	55a	55a	Standard Bank	15a	15a	ahead in active trading on news			ahead in active trading on news		
Alcoa Ind.	305a	306a	307a	Conn Tele.	55a	55a	Standard Bank	15a	15a	that a front-in arrangement had			that a front-in arrangement had		
Alcoa Ind.	308a	309a	310a	Conn Tele.	55a	55a	Standard Bank	15a	15a	been negotiated with Esso.			been negotiated with Esso.		
Alcoa Ind.	311a	312a	313a	Conn Tele.	55a	55a	Standard Bank	15a	15a	55 cents to AS1.75, Suzanne 25			55 cents to AS1.75 and Bakal		
Alcoa Ind.	314a	315a	316a	Conn Tele.	55a	55a	Standard Bank	15a	15a	cents to AS1.75 and Bakal			cents to AS1.75 and Bakal		
Alcoa Ind.	317a	318a	319a	Conn Tele.	55a	55a	Standard Bank	15a	15a	Minerals 15 cents to 50 cents.			Minerals 15 cents to 50 cents.		
Alcoa Ind.	320a	321a	322a	Conn Tele.	55a	55a	Standard Bank	15a	15a	speculations, the three partners			speculations, the three partners		
Alcoa Ind.	323a	324a	325a	Conn Tele.	55a	55a	Standard Bank	15a	15						

AN AMERICAN scientist once told his company president how he had solved the problem of making artificial leather at a cost of several hundred million dollars. "You haven't solved the problem—you've murdered it," said his chief. Even so, they both failed to allow for the fickleness of fashion. Women went for big holes in their shoes and no longer needed the pores science had painstakingly simulated.

That story illustrates two of the features of industrial research—cost and the unpredictability of public response to innovation—that frighten research directors and their chairmen today. There are others, notably some unforeseen facet of the new product or its manufacturing process, that the public perceives as a threat to its health, safety or employment prospects.

These pitfalls seem daunting enough to make timid men of the most innovative research directors. But this is not so, as became clear at a recent meeting in Munich of the men responsible for innovation in more than 100 of Europe's research-based companies. One conclusion must be that industrial scientists are not an "endangered species," as for example the Royal Society in Britain is inclined to see them. Another must be that they are proving just as innovative in adapting to the new pressures that society is thrusting upon them.

The European Industrial Research Management Association (EIRMA) is a club of companies that firmly believe they can survive only by continuing to innovate. It includes companies with annual research and development budgets of hundreds of millions of pounds: Philips, ICI, Shell, Hoechst, etc. It claims to represent two-thirds or more of Europe's research-based industry; although there are some conspicuous absents such as Hoffmann-La Roche, the world's biggest spender on drug research.

EIRMA members are trying

to reconcile the demands of three sectors whose perception of innovation may be disappointingly different. These three are their own boards of management, their governments, and the public generally.

To take one example: a truly innovative drug such as Tagamet.

Dr. Jurg Rutschmann, the "conscience" of Sandoz

met, a cure for peptic ulcers discovered by Smith Kline and French in a UK laboratory, can generate tremendous pressures within an industry. Tagamet was introduced in 1976. In 1979 it added over £200m to Sandoz's turnover. The U.S. investment market coined the term "tagamania" to describe the feverish search for the next "breakthrough" which would transform the balance sheet of a drug company. Research directors have come under great pressure to adopt more widely

the new approach which led to Tagamet's discovery.

But the public attitude towards innovation is less predictable. People seem genuinely excited and stimulated by innovation and discovery. They do not even recognise that there are certain natural limits. As Dr. Jurg Rutschmann of Sandoz says cynically: "95 per cent of people want to believe in perpetual motion."

As the EEC has discovered, people are rather indifferent to innovation in demonstrably dangerous areas of public activity such as road transport; and, as ICI has found, they are dismissive of some efforts to reduce the risks of smoking. Yet public opinion can apparently be roused to fury by levels of risk so slight as to require the exposure of the whole population before any problem begins to appear. Critics of nuclear energy have tried desperately to show that it must be harming someone, somewhere.

Dr. Hans Haunschmid, permanent secretary responsible for German government research and technology, admitted in Munich that he had no answer for "the minority with an uncompromisingly negative attitude towards technology and industrialised society." But he urged the research chiefs to be ready and willing to speak freely about the "negative side" of any new development. Industry would thereby enhance its credibility.

The research chiefs could learn a lot from German's experience of public reaction to nuclear energy. Innovation was not enough, said Dr. Haunschmid. The German public had also to be assured that the invention would save energy and improve the environment.

This month the West German

Government is applying its experience of public reaction to nuclear innovation in the late-1970s to micro-electronics. By deliberately fostering a public debate on the benefits and risks of silicon chips, it hopes to avoid the damaging hold-ups which have been impeding German nuclear construction.

Its aim is to focus public attention from the start on what the Government perceives as real risks, and try to prevent it from being misled by what Dr.

Haunschmid calls "fabricated problems."

These are problems raised by those whose "intensity of participation is inversely proportional to their knowledge of the subject," says Dr. A. E. Pannenborg, vice-chairman of Philips, the Dutch electronics group. Philips is confident enough of public enthusiasm for innovation to feature research prominently in its TV advertising. Dr. Pannenborg believes that for industrial science a big change took place during the 1970s, with professional pride in innovation reasserting itself, after a period of preoccupation with

disintegrating kidney stones with an electric spark. The rest comes from contracts, mostly from government; much of it for projects in energy, the biggest single sector of German Government spending on R and D.

He takes a sharply cynical view, however, of the prospects for some of the energy projects placed with Dornier by his

Government. Solar projects, for example, can do no more than postpone the real energy problem, because the solutions are proving so energy-intensive to set up. Hydrogen as a novel fuel would require an immense investment in a new infrastructure for manufacture, transmission and distribution, and would raise new risks in use.

Where Dr. Schmidt believes that governments could be of considerable assistance to innovation is in reaching international agreement on its use. In transport for example, he finds it incredible that Europe has no advanced railway project designed to cross frontiers as freely as airline operations.

Private companies are pioneering collaboration in one key area of innovation in transport. At the initiative of Professor Umberto Businari, managing director of research for Fiat, six of the biggest European motor companies have just agreed to work together on long-term research problems which could have a big influence on the performance of cars especially their fuel consumption—in the 1990s. Examples are much more fundamental studies of combustion in the internal combustion engine, and of vehicle aerodynamics.

The aim would be to develop new research techniques for examining such problems, which each company would then apply as it sees fit. Professor Businari sees no reason why collaboration should not also extend to manufacturing technology.

Fiat claims the biggest motor industry research effort in Europe, on a par with Ford in

the U.S., with 1,000 qualified people employed at its Turin laboratories. Of its partners, Volvo and Volkswagen also have substantial resources; and Renault, Peugeot and British Leyland are all re-organising their R and D into a stronger base. Professor Businari ex-

pects the "club" to have four or five collaborative research projects launched before the end of this year.

The pharmaceutical industry is growing strong from basic research of the kind this club is considering for cars. No industry is more alive to the risks as well as the rewards of research. Roche discovered the tranquilliser Librium more by happy accident than planned research in the 1950s and has reinvested heavily in basic

drugs research to become the world's biggest spender in the field. Yet it has failed to produce another big success.

In the 1970s it incurred pub-

lic wrath, first for maintaining what was seen as a high price for its tranquillisers, and then for the accident at Seveso, when a deadly poison leaked from one of its plants.

Sandoz, another of the three

big Swiss pharmaceutical groups, aroused public anger after Seveso when a product

was found to be contaminated

with traces of a poison made

like the dioxin released at

Seveso, in the course of manu-

facture. The experience con-

vinced the chairman of Sandoz

that he needed a man on his

board responsible for three

interlocking areas of company activity: product safety

(toxicity), safety of its own

workpeople, and its impact

upon the environment. Roche

and Ciba-Geigy have recently

made similar appointments and

the three directors have formed

an informal "club" meeting

regularly to exchange prob-

lems. All three companies

spend heavily on drug R and D

—Ciba-Geigy and Sandoz about

11 per cent of the turnover of

their pharmaceutical businesses, Roche as much as 15 per cent.

The Sandoz safety expert is

Dr. Jurg Rutschmann, its director of chemical and pharmacological research for 15 years. The qualifications for success, as he sees it, include

"an intimate knowledge of all the technologies involved and an intimate knowledge of how the company functions." His

job is continuously to audit corporate health and safety practice, reporting not to the chairman himself. His role—"conscience of the company"—is not one calculated to make him popular with many of his fellow directors, as he admits. But Dr. Rutschmann finds that it is

exploiting everything he has ever learned in a lifelong career with Sandoz which began with work on its wartime

discovery of LSD.



Dr. A. E. Pannenborg:  
Philips boosts its research

pacts his "club" to have four or five collaborative research projects launched before the end of this year.

The pharmaceutical industry has grown strong from basic research of the kind this club is considering for cars. No industry is more alive to the risks as well as the rewards of research.

Roche discovered the tranquilliser Librium more by happy accident than planned research in the 1950s and has reinvested heavily in basic

## NOTICE OF REDEMPTION

To the Holders of

**Honda Motor Co., Ltd.**

7½% Guaranteed Sinking Fund Debentures Due 1981

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that One Million Three Hundred Thirty Three Thousand Dollars (\$1,333,000) principal amount of Honda Motor Co., Ltd. 7½% Guaranteed Sinking Fund Debentures Due 1981 and bearing the following serial numbers, have been drawn for redemption for account of the Sinking Fund on July 15, 1980 at the principal amount thereof and accrued interest to that date.

## DEBENTURES IN DENOMINATION OF \$1,000, EACH

29	1207	2770	4050	5434	6701	8174	10059	11869	13246	14386	15612	16809	17221	18229	19206
30	1325	2882	4083	5445	6717	8194	10054	11703	13255	14419	15619	16859	17239	18230	19214
51	1499	2802	4073	5449	6725	8198	10058	11756	13269	14434	15651	16859	17237	18235	19215
54	1518	2823	4086	5457	6735	8185	10078	11780	13265	14437	15668	16865	17247	18212	19216
100	1520	2824	4087	5458	6736	8186	10079	11781	13266	14438	15669	16866	17248	18213	19217
112	1550	2825	4087	5459	6737	8176	10076	11716	13272	14446	15675	16876	17251	18233	19227
124	1552	2820	4104	5460	6737	8177	10077	11717	13273	14447	15683	16879	17250	18231	19227
132	1560	2887	4124	5501	6738	8179	10123	12220	14448	15680	16874	17237	18227	19217	19207
181	1576	2811	4125	5502	6739	8180	10123	12221	14449	15681	16875	17238	18228	19218	19208
194	1584	2822	4144	5526	6777	8181	10124	12222	14450	15681	16876	17239	18229	19219	19209
201	1588	2826	4150	5545	6794	8185	10131	12245	14454	15714	16701	17246	18230	19220	19210
209	1600	2929	4154	5547	6811	8187	10145	12371	14453	15715	16707	17245	18230	19223	19213
221	1601	2930	4155	5548	6811	8187	10145	12376	14454	15716	16708	17246	18231	19224	19214
227	1602	2931	4156	5549	6812	8188	10146	12377	14455	15717	16709	17247	18232	19225	19215
241	1624	2944	4193	5605	6881	8179	10175	11903	13458	14481	15779	16723	17240	18228	19220
245	1634	2945	4194	5606	6881	8179	10175	11903	13458	14481	15781	16724	17241	18229	19221
254	1738	2953	4272	5677	6926	8175	10209	12049	14497	15785	16782	17245	18234	19233	19224
271	1740	2954	4273	5678	6926	8176									

# FINANCIAL TIMES SURVEY

Friday June 13 1980

## Energy for Industry

### Savings hitting the mark

By Ray Daffier  
Energy Editor

**INDUSTRY AND** commerce have found themselves trapped uncomfortably between economic recession and inflation, both of which have been aggravated by big increases in energy costs over the past 18 months.

But there is some consolation. For the time being supply uncertainties have abated. There are more than adequate amounts of the various fuels to meet damped demand for the rest of this year and next winter.

How long this state of affairs will last is anyone's guess. Energy — particularly oil — has become a political instrument as well as an economic commodity. A disruption in supplies from one of the major oil producers could trigger another crisis similar to those that occurred in 1973-74 and 1978-79. By reducing their dependence on oil major energy-consuming countries can do much to lessen the impact of such a crisis when and if it occurs.

The International Energy Agency, representing virtually all of the West's main industrialised countries, recognised this in the action taken at its last ministerial meeting on May 22. Ministers agreed to implement national energy policies that would enable IEA countries to "substantially under-shoot" the existing 1985 group target for oil imports.

26.3m barrels a day including bunkers. The IEA's secretariat estimates that concerted action could lead to imports falling around 4m b/d short of that target.

Further, the IEA has agreed to reduce the share of oil in the total energy demand to about 40 per cent by 1990, as against around 52 per cent now. The ratio of energy growth to economic growth is expected to be brought down to about 0.6:1. This is in sharp contrast to the trend before 1973 when energy consumption was growing at a faster rate than the world's economic activity.

Reporting to Parliament on these objectives earlier this month, Mr. David Howell, Energy Secretary, commented: "Implementation will require courageous and sometimes unpopular action from all member governments."

#### Burden

It seems inevitable that industry will be called upon to carry much of the burden of energy policies designed to fulfil IEA's commitments. Industry is the biggest single user of energy ahead of the domestic and transport sectors. It has probably the greatest economic incentive to change its energy consumption patterns. With fuel prices rising so rapidly, a conservation-minded company is finding that it can be much more competitive than a company which still uses fuel in a profligate manner.

The U.S. is often described as the greediest energy consumer in the world, but its industries — like its motorists — have begun to be more conservation-minded. This was a point taken up by Mr. Edward Jefferson, president of one of the biggest U.S. chemical groups, E.I. Du Pont de Nemours, when he spoke at a London meeting of the American Chamber of Commerce last month.

In the early to mid-1970s operators of industrial plants voluntarily agreed to reduce energy use by 10 to 30 per cent. He said: "The target date was early 1980. While the data is

not all in, it appears that most industries met the mark." Mr. Jefferson stated. Du Pont had reduced its energy consumption per unit of output by 25 per cent as against a 1972 base level. By the end of 1985 Du Pont intended to bring consumption down by 30 per cent.

"We are convinced that energy savings at these levels are possible in many companies and industries, and that it is still true that the least expensive barrel of oil you can buy is the one labelled 'conservation'.

A recent study by the Union of Concerned Scientists has shown that improvements in energy efficiency in the U.S. saved the equivalent of 13.5m barrels of oil between 1973 and 1978 — about five months' worth of oil imports at present levels.

There is a problem for those analysing such figures, however.

Another reason why energy

They can never be certain whether reduced consumption is due to depressed economic activity, a reaction to higher prices (a type of conservation measure), or the result of deliberate energy-saving action.

It is reckoned that within industry "good housekeeping"

requiring no or very little investment can reduce fuel consumption by at least 10 per cent — much more in very many cases. By investing in proven technology companies should be able to improve energy efficiency by at least 30 per cent.

These are the sort of challenges now facing a new breed of industrial and commercial executive — the energy manager. Within the UK it is estimated that there are now more than 5,000 energy managers, many of them very close to the top of their organisation's management structure.

Mr. John Moore, Junior Energy Minister with special responsibility for energy con-

servation, believes that industry expended its greatest fuel-saving effort in the period from 1974 to 1976 when rising prices were having a major impact. He doubted whether a great deal of savings were achieved in 1977 and 1978 when fuel prices were dropping in real terms.

Companies could take one or two years to analyse future energy pricing trends. But a further one to three years might be spent analysing regulation standards and the choice of conservation options.

The ordering and construction period might last a further one to three years.

Thus, it could be three to eight years after the first pricing signals are read that new conservation equipment is installed and switched on. As Shell says: "Much could be in the pipeline that has yet to show up in statistics."

Mr. John Moore, Junior Energy Minister with special responsibility for energy con-

sumption, believes that industry expended its greatest fuel-saving effort in the period from 1974 to 1976 when rising prices were having a major impact. He doubted whether a great deal of savings were achieved in 1977 and 1978 when fuel prices were dropping in real terms.

The situation has changed again in the light of post-Iranian price increases which occurred last year and have continued since to the present.

North Sea oil was priced at around \$14 a barrel at year-end 1978. Today it costs more than \$30 a barrel. The Government has encouraged North Sea operators to follow the world pricing trend. It has steadily avoided giving its industrialists a helping hand by keeping down domestic oil prices. Indeed, the Government has encouraged the British Gas Corporation to raise its prices with those for oil products.

There is no doubt that the pricing mechanism works; realistic pricing encourages conservation.

Mr. Moore said: "Higher prices together with an increased information programme are the twin pillars supporting the present Government's conservation policies."

Mr. Moore and his colleagues have taken considerable satisfaction from the most recent statistics emanating from the Department of Energy. A new fuel price index, published in the latest issue of the Department's "Energy Trends," shows that last year the price of industrial fuels rose by 17 per cent as against a 10 per cent rise in wholesale price index (excluding crude oil and carbonising coal).

In the last quarter the increase was 30 per cent over the corresponding period of 1978 — a rise which was three

times faster than the wholesale price index. During the quarter heavy fuel prices rose no less than 52 per cent.

Accordingly, prices were reflected in consumption. Industrial energy consumption (excluding the iron and steel sectors) rose by just 2.9 per cent during the year as a whole. However, fourth-quarter consumption was down 0.8 per cent against the corresponding period of 1978. Oil demand in the quarter dropped 8.8 per cent.

And the trend has continued into this year. Total deliveries of oil products fell by 14.6 per cent, or 3.5m tonnes, in the first quarter compared with a year ago. About 1.6m tonnes of this may be attributed to reduced supplies to power stations, which have been increasing their coal burn, but even after accounting for this the reduction in all other deliveries amounted to 9.6 per cent.

Most of the drop in demand for butane and propane (down 5.1 per cent) can be laid at the door of industry. Similarly there were substantial reductions in the consumption of burning oil, gas oil and diesel all of which were largely attributable to industry and commerce.

But the most dramatic swing is recorded in the heavy fuel oil sector. Even after accounting for the cutback in supplies to power stations, deliveries of fuel oil to industry and commerce fell 23.6 per cent during the first quarter.

At the same time deliveries of industrial coal fell by 11 per cent.

#### Case studies

All these changes must be seen in the light of reduced economic activity. The index of production for manufacturing industries was down 2.5 per cent as against the first quarter of 1979.

So, on the face of it, conservation effort is moving ahead of economic trends. This is borne out by a host of case studies cited by Mr. Moore. Among them are:

• Olives Paper Mill, at Bury, spent £100,000 on equipment to

re-use hot air from drying cylinders. It is estimated that fuel savings will exceed £25,000 a year.

• Ardmore Distillery invested £250,000 to re-use high grade heat. Savings: at least £20,000 annually.

• Yorkshire Brick Company, Barnsley, spent around £10,000 on a heat recovery system and is saving over £625 a week — £360,000 a year — as a result.

The savings achieved in these schemes may appear modest when set against what is being achieved by the big energy-intensive groups — oil refiners, chemical manufacturers, the iron and steel companies, motor manufacturers and the like. But they illustrate what can be achieved, often with relatively modest investment.

It is worth noting that the latest winner of British Gas Corporation's "Gas Energy Management" (GEM) award — E. and E. Kaye of Enfield, has achieved a 75 per cent reduction in the amount of natural gas needed for the heat treatment of aluminium billets.

Mr. Archie Forster, the new chairman and chief executive of Esso Petroleum, recently gave his endorsement of the need for even greater conservation effort when he delivered the Idris Jones Memorial Lecture — "A Same View of the Energy Future" — a few weeks ago.

"The most powerful force for change will be the force of the market, and we must have the courage to let it operate. The market pricing mechanism tells customers which fuels to use and when to use them, if it is allowed to reflect the true cost of the resources involved. It is the greatest conservation propaganda one could wish for — much superior to any form of exhortation."

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## Choosing electricity makes sound business sense

Derek Melvin is a Managing Director who doesn't take decisions without a thorough analysis of all the relevant facts and alternatives. For some of the processes at Aylesbury-based TRW United-Carr, where they make over £5 million worth of fastening devices for the automotive appliance markets each year, the decision to install new plant meant that decisions needed to be taken on energy sources too.

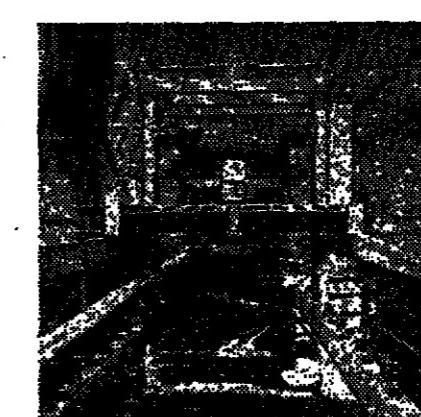
In four key areas, Derek uses electricity and he says "Working experience is proving that we made the right choice. Increased output, better quality control and improvements in the working environment are all coming out very close to forecast."

A compressed-air drying unit keeps their pneumatic systems on the go... electric heat-treatment furnaces have increased output by 50%... the automatic electro-plating line has led to closer quality control... and electric lift-trucks are giving an improved working environment.

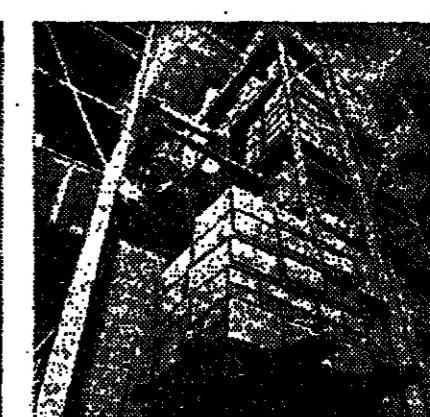
This helps to show how an Industrial Sales Engineer from the local Electricity Board has advised on the best use of electricity in a particular manufacturing situation.

In this case, it was John Aldous from the Eastern Board who worked alongside his customer and helped get results which make sound energy management sense. To talk to the men who have the experience to help improve your company's operating efficiency, just contact your Electricity Board.

Derek Melvin (far left) and John Aldous examine fastening devices before heat treatment at TRW United-Carr.



Closer control of quality has become possible now that automatic electro-plating is in use.



Battery powered lift-trucks, charged on night-time low tariff electricity, are giving a cleaner, quieter working environment.

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The Electricity Council, England and Wales

## ENERGY FOR INDUSTRY II

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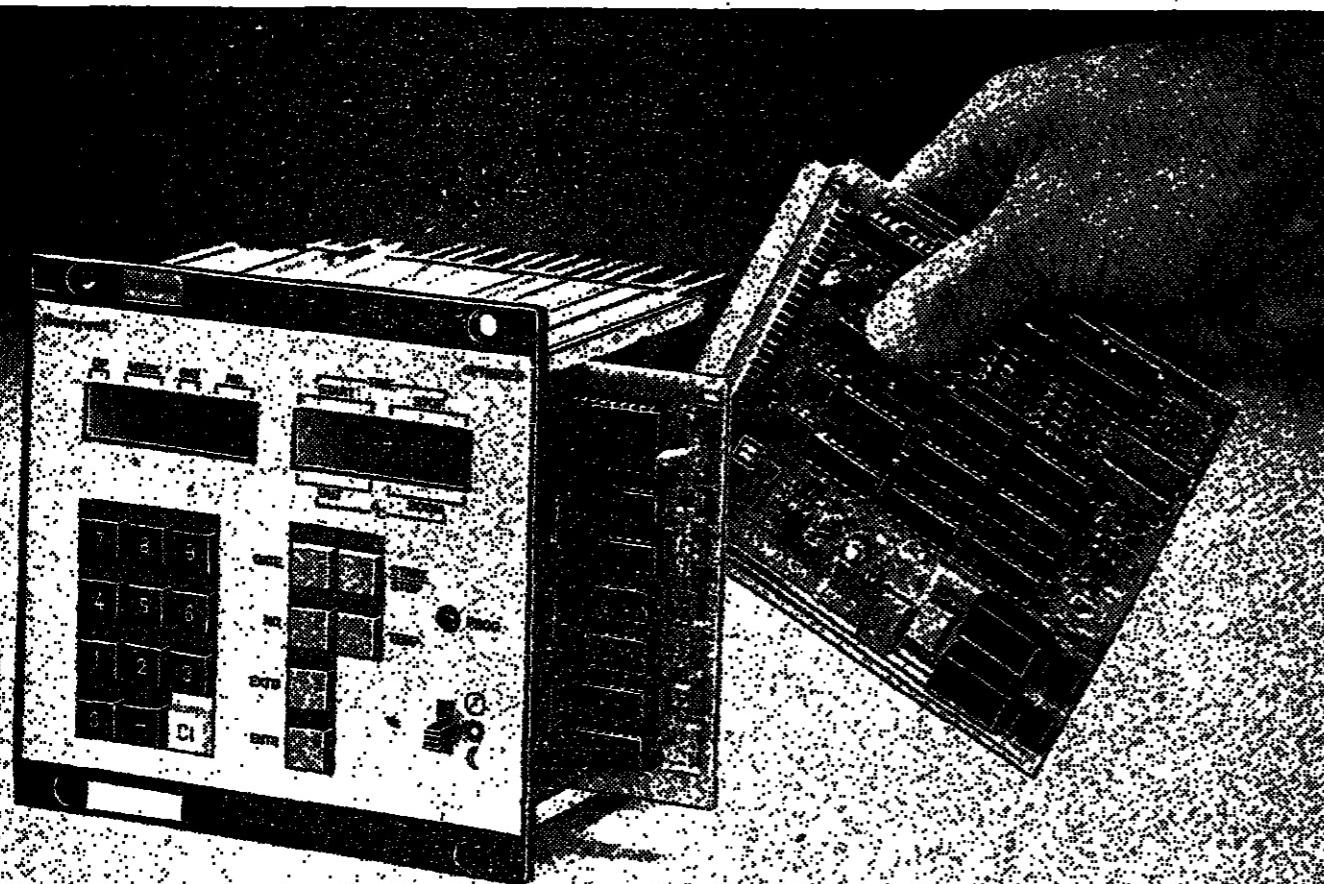
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John Inglis

# Coal set for comeback

COAL, WHICH lost much of its British industrial market during the cheap oil era of the 1960s, is poised to make a comeback.

Nothing illustrates this more clearly than figures: In the 1950s coal held 72 per cent of the market for fuel burnt by general industry, by hospitals and local authorities using industrial-type boilers. Today coal only accounts for 13 per cent of this market, about 11m tonnes of a market of over 80m tonnes a year. But the National Coal Board hopes that over the next 10 to 15 years it will push its share up to 30 per cent or more.

Four factors are vital in achieving this target: an assured supply of coal, reasonable prices, ease of coal use, and the construction of sufficient new boilers to burn the fuel.

### Evidence

Supply seems to have turned a corner. Deep-mined production rose by 4m tonnes last year, to 106m tonnes, the first year-on-year increase since 1963. It is the firmest evidence yet that the investment poured into the industry since the mid-1970s is starting to pay dividends.

It is impossible to say just how closely domestic supply will match demand in the year 2000. The recently published World Coal Study predicted UK demand then would be anywhere between 140m and 180m tonnes. The NCB aims to supply 170m tonnes. Many observers believe this may be overambitious, but the Coal Study nevertheless estimates that imports will have little, if any, part to play in meeting the country's needs.

Indeed, with the demand for power station coal growing only slowly and the domestic market relatively stable, the NCB will be looking to industry as a vital consumer of its output over the next decade.

Forecasts of the future price of coal, compared to other fuels, generate as much argument as the supply/demand equation. There are two broad schools of thought. One reckons that coal will follow up the price of oil closely, though always maintaining a competitive margin of at least 15 per cent. Fears within the NCB that



Operating hydraulic roof supports at the new Betws drift mine, South Wales, part of the National Coal Board's £600m a year expansion programme

bottlenecks could develop in the provision of new boilers to burn the fuel.

The board estimated that 23,000 new boilers may be needed in the UK over the next 10-15 years. Already there are clear signs of a switch to coal firing by some major companies but the movement is not as rapid as it could be.

### Gearing

One problem seems to be the capital costs involved in a switch at a time of high interest rates and an economy going into recession.

Companies with expensive-to-run, but workable oil plant are unenthusiastic about an investment which will worsen their gearing, whatever the long-term benefits.

But although coal's future in industry looks bright, there are

one suddenly wanting new equipment at the same time. Since the installation of a boiler can take four years or more from the decision to go ahead, such jams can easily build up.

So the major obstacle in the way of a rapid expansion of coal burning by industry seems to be the capital expenditure involved. And the costs are substantial: a new boiler for a medium-sized consumer using 5-10,000 tonnes a year could cost up to £500,000. A boiler for a large process plant, using 500,000 tonnes, could cost up to £5m.

Action by the Government, in the form of tax relief or conversion grants, might help, and would have the added virtue of conserving oil supplies. But for the most part the switch to coal seems likely to depend on a display of enlightened self-interest by industrialists themselves.

Martin Dickson

## Fuel costs force electricity rise

THESE ARE difficult days for the electricity supply industry, which has just announced a 10 per cent price rise for August -5 per cent more and two months earlier than planned.

This announcement came at the same time as one from the Government saying it was asking the Monopolies Commission to investigate the efficiency and costs of the Central Electricity Generating Board, which provides the English and Welsh area Boards with their bulk electricity supplies.

At present the national price of electricity delivered to medium sized industrial consumers averages 83.5p a therm. After August 1 this will go up to 89p a therm.

The factors behind the price rises, which are also likely to be the issues looked at by the Monopolies Commission, go a long way towards explaining the industry's present state and future outlook.

The most important reason cited by the Electricity Council for the price rise was the increased cost of the fuel used to generate electricity. It said oil doubled in price over the last year and coal had gone up by 30 per cent.

Since fuel accounts for more than 50 per cent of the electricity industry's costs, a large proportion of its prices merely reflect coal and oil price rises over which it has no control.

Another significant factor in the rise will have been the industry's need to stick to the financial target set for it by the Government for the next three years—an average annual rate of return of 1.8 per cent on net assets—and its external financing limit, fixed for 1980/81 at £187m.

### Complain

As it is, the industry had to exceed by £200m-£300m the borrowing ceiling set for it in the financial year to last March. The figures may seem large, but they are small compared to the turnover of what is one of the country's largest and most important industrial organisations, and many complain that the borrowing limit merely hinders commercial efficiency.

Last year's unexpected overshooting of the borrowing target was due in large measure to an unexpected drop in demand for electricity just when the industry was carrying high fuel stocks.

The drop stemmed from mild winter weather and strikes in the engineering and steel industries, but it may also have been due to the gathering recession, which is expected to produce very slow growth in electricity demand over the next six years.

Latest Electricity Council

figures suggest that demand will remain static at 226 terawatt hours until 1987-88, when a modest rise will begin. But by 1986-87, it will only have reached 239.4 TWH, 6 per cent higher than now.

Longer-term demand is very difficult to gauge but the council reckons that by the year 2000 it could be between 263 and 437 TWH, probably towards the lower end of this range.

### Peak demand

On the supply side, the 1980s should provide the industry with an embarrassment of riches. With 13,000 MW of new generating plant under construction, there should be capacity throughout the 1980s in excess of the so-called planning margin. This is the 28 per cent of capacity above peak demand which the CEBG has ready to cover plant unavailability.

However, in the 1990s the position begins to change. It is estimated that between 30,000 and 40,000 MW of elderly plant will have to be taken out of service before the year 2000.

It was to help plug this gap that the Government announced last December a nuclear expansion programme. First two more British-designed advanced gas-cooled reactor (AGR) stations are to be built at Heysham in Lancashire and Torness in Scotland—despite some Government wavering on the issues this year.

After that, the aim is to begin work on one nuclear station a year in the decade from 1982, starting with Britain's first American-designed pressurised water reactor (PWR) station. But already the starting date for that is slipping back to 1983-84.

Irrespective of the precise demand for electricity during the 1980s, CEBG officials estimate that the new nuclear stations will work out considerably cheaper than equivalent coal-fired plants, taking capital and running costs together, and they will also provide a marginal saving compared with maintaining existing old plant in the system.

Nevertheless, the industry will continue to rely heavily on coal and, to a lesser extent, oil for its fuel needs for a long time yet and its prices will inevitably reflect theirs.

August's price rises illustrate how this can thwart plans to make electricity more competitive with rival fuels, and there are more rises in the pipeline: the Government expects the price of electricity to go up by 5 per cent more than the rate of inflation in both 1981 and 1982.

Latest Electricity Council

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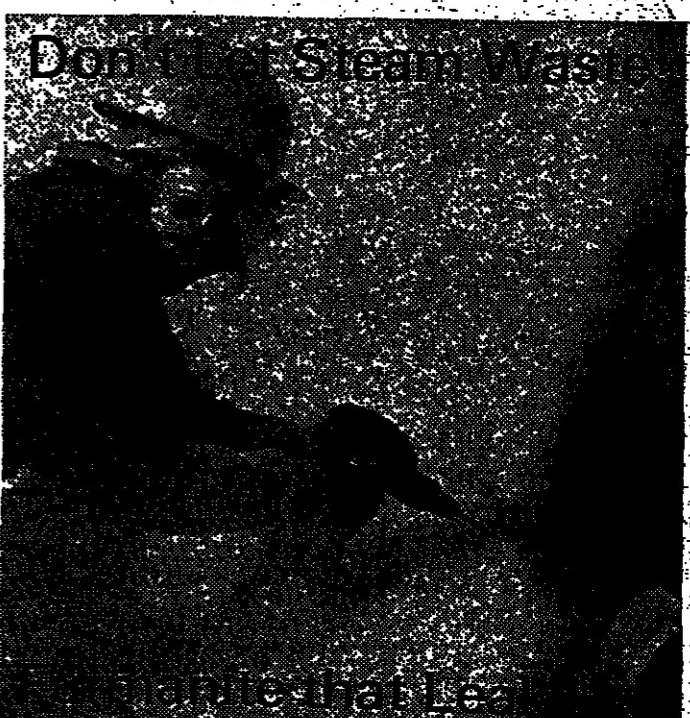


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## ENERGY FOR INDUSTRY III

## Oil market remains unstable

INDUSTRIAL BUYERS of oil products must think they are involved in a perpetual game of "Heads I lose, tails you win."

Last year, in the wake of the Iranian crisis, they faced supply shortages as oil companies, concerned about stock levels and market disruptions, restricted deliveries. And, of course, prices went up.

So far this year oil supplies have been more than adequate to meet demand. The mild winter and lowered economic activity have left stock tanks full. With Saudi Arabia—the world's major oil exporter—still willing to maintain output at the high level of 9.5m barrels a day, companies have ended their restrictions on deliveries. And prices keep going up.

Now big oil companies are warning their customers not to be complacent: to be aware that further supply disruptions and shortages could come at any time in what is still a fragile oil market. And there is a general recognition that prices are likely to continue to go up.

On New Year's Eve 1978, a barrel (35 gallons) of North Sea oil from the Forties Field cost \$14. By the beginning of June this year, and nine price increases later, the market value had risen to \$38.25 a barrel.

For the first time the UK Energy Department has included fuel price indices in its Energy Trends statistical bulletin. The latest issue shows that between 1973 and the end of last year the price of fuel oil, in current terms, rose 502 per cent. By comparison the index of wholesale prices, excluding crude oil and carbonising coal, rose by just over 144 per cent during the same period.

The actual prices agreed by oil companies and their industrial and commercial buyers are not normally disclosed. How-

## Realistic prices

That said, the Government has made energy conservation through realistic prices a cornerstone of its fuel policies. The North Sea should soon be yielding enough oil to put the UK into a position of net self-sufficiency—around 1.8m barrels daily. But the present Government, like its predecessors, is making sure that the oil is sold at the world market



Work progresses on one of the most ambitious oil refinery projects in Western Europe—a catalytic cracking unit which will upgrade products from the Texaco and Gulf refineries in Milford Haven, South Wales. The £250m project forms part of a general oil industry scheme to extract from crude oil a higher proportion of transport fuels and chemical feedstocks and a lesser amount of heavy fuel oil.

rate. As North Sea crude is of premium quality, the policy means that UK oil is among the most expensive in the world.

"It is quite clear that the step we have taken to ensure the price of energy must signal its value and scarcity has been the most effective conservation measure taken over the last 10 years," Mr. John Moore, Junior Energy Minister responsible for conservation, said at a commercial motoring conference a fortnight ago.

He was speaking as the Government released details of energy consumption in the first quarter of this year. Overall primary energy demand fell by 6.6 per cent against the corresponding period of last year. But the consumption of oil pro-

ducts dropped by 14.4 per cent. Depressed industrial activity, the steel strike, relatively mild weather, conservation effort and the switch from oil to other fuels all combined to cause the reduction in demand.

During the early part of this year, for instance, the amount of oil used by the iron and steel industry was 4.3 per cent below last year's level. The amount of oil—predominantly heavy fuel oil—used in power stations was down by about one third as the Central Electricity Generating Board increased its coal burn.

The switch from oil and gas to coal and nuclear power in the electricity generating industry is a central plank in the energy policies of most industrialised countries. Energy Ministers of the European Economic Community have just agreed that by 1990 solid fuels and nuclear energy should cover at least 70-75 per cent of the primary

energy requirements for electricity production.

More generally, the EEC Ministers want to reduce oil consumption to a level equal to—or lower than—40 per cent of gross primary energy consumption by the end of the decade. At present, oil accounts for about half the EEC's energy needs.

## Target

Ministers of countries belonging to the wider International Energy Agency (basically the whole of the developed Western world) have set themselves a similar target. At present, oil's share in IEA's total energy demand is 32 per cent. A communiqué issued on May 22 said: "Ministers noted that a smooth medium-term transition away from an oil-based economy, is a prerequisite for a prospering world economy in which all nations can pursue economic growth and development."

If governments can effect the necessary changes in energy balances, if industry, commerce and private individuals respond to the call for greater conservation effort, if dampened economic growth leads to lower than expected energy demand and if members of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries maintain output at around last year's level, there should be plenty of oil to go around. This would result in new pricing stability. But there are many "ifs" and the conclusions are by no means certain when oil has been turned as much into a political weapon as an economic commodity.

As the IEA communiqué put it: "The price increases since the end of 1979 have occurred despite falling oil demand and appear to have been made without taking into account their adverse impact on the world economy."

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## Government watch on energy use

BRITISH INDUSTRY has reacted in various ways—and at varying speeds—to the inexorable pressures throughout the 1970s for more efficient use of energy. Many individual companies have forged ahead with their own energy-saving techniques but there has also been a growing realisation of the need to bring together individual ideas and techniques for application on an industry-wide basis.

The Departments of Energy and Industry, therefore, for some time have been actively pursuing a policy of encouraging energy audits of major industries and these have been carried out often with the aid of the trade association of the industry concerned.

One of the major problems, however, has been obtaining the commitment of top management in the major companies. There are many industries, for example, where the energy percentage of the cost make-up is small. However, when expressed as a proportion of the value added to a product it can take on an entirely new significance. Certain operations in the dairy industry and metal processing industries—such as rolling aluminium—fall into this category.

In the latter case, for example, energy use is almost 5 per cent of sales value—i.e. very small—but it represents the not insubstantial figure of 30 per cent of controllable costs.

Here is a closer look at the various steps being taken towards energy saving in some major industries.

**BREWING:** The brewing industry was one of the first to be aware of the need for energy saving. A fuel use survey in 1977, for example, revealed that some breweries were using three times as much energy as others to produce the same quantity of beer. Such differences were accounted for by the age, design, and capacity of plant.

Consequently, the industry set itself a target of reducing energy consumption by 10 per cent over the four years to 1982. In fact it achieved this target within the first two years of the plan and saved an estimated 2m gigajoules of energy—equivalent to about 20m tonnes of gas or 100,000 tonnes of coal equivalent.

## Feasible

Based on this success, a recent industry energy audit—published in consultation with the Brewers' Society—suggested that energy savings of 38 per cent are considered technically feasible.

The energy audit for the brewing industry revealed several potential energy-saving methods. These included: heat recovery from the keg cleaning and racking lines (saving 36,000 tonnes of coal equivalent a year); improved management of the brewery heat load (savings 73,000 tonnes); and recovery of the boil-off from the brew of the introduction of alternative boiling techniques (saving 73,000 tonnes).

**ALUMINIUM:** Other than in primary smelting, the major part of energy used in the aluminium industry is in furnaces. There are, however, vast differences in the capacity and

context in which furnaces are used. Estimates suggest that standard energy-saving techniques, such as educating employees and good housekeeping methods, could achieve savings of 4,000 terajoules per year, having a value of £7m.

The application of simple direct-reading instruments, for example, could also result in savings of up to £2m a year, the energy audit of the industry suggested. This audit also pointed out that little heat recovery was practised in the industry. "The few conventional heat exchangers that have been incorporated in the stacks of furnaces have generally shown poor performance," the Audit says. Estimates of the potential savings from waste heat recovery suggest that a total of £2m a year could be saved.

The energy audit concludes: "For many years, and even today, energy conservation in areas other than primary production has tended to be regarded as of secondary importance. This has led to a characteristic organisation of production which is not oriented towards using energy efficiently."

**GLASS:** The glass industry accounts for more than 2 per cent of the total energy used by the main industrial groups. About 80 per cent of the energy used in the industry goes into melting the raw materials to make the glass, which is then formed into various products. This high proportion in the melting process has made manufacturers very aware over the years of the need to improve performance of the melting units.

## Careful timing

However, the high cost of glass melting equipment means that replacement by new, more energy-efficient machines may not be made for several years. Therefore, the industry's energy audit suggests that careful timing should be considered of the research into fundamental changes in melting methods so that the results become available as furnaces are due for renewal.

The energy audit report also shows that there is a great loss of heat during the manufacturing process and suggests that there may well be further work to be done on utilisation of this heat. But the report also acknowledges that most of the lost heat is low grade and it is not immediately apparent how it could be used.

**TEXTILES:** Industry estimates suggest that in the various textile sectors—knitting cotton and allied spinning and weaving, woollen and worsted manufacture, dyeing and finishing—there is scope for energy savings of between 15 to 18 per cent, amounting in total to £20m a year.

The possibilities for savings vary from sector to sector, but one constant factor has been inefficient space heating and air conditioning of many plants.

Energy is being wasted too in other simple ways. A study of the woollen industry showed that perhaps as much as £500 per company per year could be saved by a switch from incandescent and often grimy tungsten lighting to more efficient forms of lighting such as fluorescent

# HOW GAS HELPED REDUCE VAUXHALL'S FUEL CONSUMPTION BY 56%

These days, no company is more fuel conscious than a car manufacturer.

To sell a car at a competitive price, manufacturing costs must be kept down. And that, of course, includes the fuel bill.

As part of their economy drive Vauxhall Motors aimed to reduce the energy costs throughout their plant at Ellesmere Port by at least 7% a year.

To achieve this target, they worked with the British Gas experts in industrial and commercial energy conservation—the Technical Consultancy Service.

Together they identified large potential savings. Not only have they achieved their 7% target but for one important process Vauxhall have reduced their fuel consumption by 56%, improved working conditions and reduced maintenance costs.

This dramatic example, you might think, is more the exception than the

rule. But we can show you many case histories where companies have made considerable savings like those achieved by Vauxhall.

They have all come about as a result of a change of attitude by the companies involved. They realised that while conservation of a premium fuel is undoubtedly in the nation's interest, it can also be highly profitable.

Perhaps you should take a leaf out of Vauxhall Motors' book.

Review your use of fuel and consider getting expert advice on how you can save more.

Who knows, next year, we may be asking if we could feature your company's dramatic savings in an advertisement like this.

**BRITISH GAS**

Don't waste your energy.



## Companies and Markets

## French seek potato imports ban

By Richard Meeson

**THE FRENCH** Association of Fruit and Vegetable Farmers (AFCOF) yesterday urged M. Pierre Mendes-France, the Agriculture Minister, to ban subsidised imports of Greek and Spanish new potatoes as Britain did earlier this week.

It also wants him to press for a blanket EEC ban on these imports.

Spanish importers are reported to be receiving a \$43 a tonne subsidy while the Greeks are getting about \$35 a tonne. The French growers claim imports from these countries have forced their prices down to about 5p a lb.

Britain has been told by the EEC Commission that the ban on potatoes from Greece, which is to join the Community next year and has already signed an association agreement, is illegal. But the Ministry of Agriculture said in London yesterday that this was not accepted.

## UK fishermen's fears on catch quota size

By Our Commodities Staff

**BRITISH** FISHERMEN'S leaders expect other EEC countries to try to claw back most of the rebate Britain is to receive on its budget contribution at the Farm Minister's meeting in Luxembourg next week.

A statement issued by the British Fishing Federation yesterday said the Ministers will be discussing quotas for fish catches in British waters worth about the same as the budget rebate. The fishermen knew no doubt that next Monday's fisheries council will mark a determined attempt by the other EEC states to get most of the money back.

It said the other countries had little incentive to push through an early settlement on the common fisheries policy. It warned that the underpinning of the UK market with subsidised imports was gradually weakening the credibility of Britain's claim for fair share of its own fish.

The federation said with total collapse staring the industry in the face, the immediate need was for extra financial help. It has asked the Government for £50m.

British fishermen will travel to Luxembourg next week to lobby the Ministers.

## Brazil abandons cocoa minimum export price

By Our Commodities Editor

**COCOA** prices dropped sharply yesterday following official confirmation that Brazil had abandoned its minimum export price of 120 cents a pound. On the London futures market the September position closed \$21 down at £1.07 a tonne. It was reported that Brazilian cocoa was immediately offered for June shipment at below \$1.05 a pound.

The Brazilian move appears to mark the end of attempts by the cocoa producing countries to control world market prices. Last week the Ivory Coast agreed to sell 100,000 tonnes of its surplus cocoa to consumers in one of the biggest ever single deals in the cocoa market, negotiated by London merchants, J. H. Rayner, part of the Berisford group.

This undermined a plan for Brazil to take Ivory Coast stockpiled cocoa for processing in order to keep it off the market for a longer period. It was immediately rumoured that Brazil would hit back by abolishing the minimum export price it had set in an effort to halt the slide in world market values. The minimum export price was originally set at 137 cents a pound but then reduced to 120 when it became apparent many producers were selling below this level.

Further talks between producing countries about a Brazilian proposal to create a outer stock fund, similar to the Bogota group in coffee, failed to make any headway because of

disagreement among producers. Hopes are now pinned on informal consultations by the UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) to see whether negotiations can be resumed for a new International Cocoa Agreement, to replace the pact that expired at the end of March.

Meanwhile, the move by Brazil to abandon its minimum price means that the market has reverted to a free-for-all situation. Traders claimed that the prospect of disposing of the Temporao crop, now being harvested, and expectations of rising output in the years ahead forced Brazil to protect its

sales outlets. There is little doubt too that the Brazilians were upset by the heavy selling by other producers in recent weeks.

The decline in the market was slowed down yesterday by technical shortage of nearby physical supplies available.

This has been caused by long delays in shipments from West African countries, particularly Ghana. It is believed some dealers are having to cover against sales to the Soviet Union, which are due to be shipped this month. However, it was noted that the July position on the futures market remains strong.

On the world market the

## Good sugar crop hopes for Britain

By Our Commodities Staff

**HOPES** ARE high for a good British sugar beet crop this year. Mr. Peter Dyke, executive director of the British Sugar Corporation, which processes all the country's beet sugar, said yesterday the crop was in good condition and sowings were 10 to 15 days ahead of last year.

Mr. Dyke, who was attending the Spring Beet Demonstration near Driffield in Yorkshire, said the 1980 crop covered 214,000 hectares of which 99 per cent had been drilled by April 26 and most during the ideal period of mid-March to early April. Between 75 and 80 per cent of the crop had germinated and emerged well, he said.

About 20 per cent of the crop had good potential while the remainder could develop, given good weather for the rest of the season, Mr. Dyke added.

On the world market meanwhile sugar prices continued the rally begun on Wednesday with the October position ending the day at £17.575 up at £381.70 a tonne.

## Copper and zinc cut

By Our Commodities Editor

**U.S.** metals producer Asarco yesterday cut its domestic selling prices of copper and zinc. Copper goes down by 2 cents to 88 cents a pound and zinc by a similar amount to 35.5 cents. Copper Range also cut its price to 88 cents.

The reductions reflect the growing depression in the U.S. base metal markets, which has led to a series of cuts in copper prices. Copper prices on the London Metal Exchange were little changed in quiet trading yesterday but remain at the lowest level since August last year.

LME zinc values were marginally higher, having already dis-

counted the very low level of consumer demand.

Latest figures issued by the International Lead and Zinc Study Group show that western world demand for slab zinc during the first quarter fell by 1.3 per cent this year, but it is known that consumption has declined even more since then.

The study group also noted lead consumption declined by 7.7 per cent during the first three months of 1980.

At the Chloride Group annual meeting yesterday it was claimed that the fall in demand for car batteries, a big outlet for lead, had been the most severe drop for over 25 years.

Mrs. Thatcher backs NZ lamb plea

By Our Commodities Staff

**BEFORE** HER departure for the Venice EEC summit Mrs. Thatcher, the British Prime Minister, gave renewed assurances that Britain firmly supported New Zealand in its efforts to protect its sheepmeat exports to Europe. Mr. Robert Muldoon, the New Zealand Prime Minister, said in Wellington yesterday.

Mr. Muldoon, who had just arrived back from a trip to Europe, said he phoned Mrs. Thatcher on Wednesday night to emphasise his concern over the sheepmeat question.

New Zealand is worried that the proposed EEC sheepmeat regime could harm its lamb exports to Britain and Europe. About 10 per cent of the country's export earnings come from lamb sales to Britain.

Mr. Peter Walker, the UK Agriculture Minister, has claimed that New Zealand has an effective veto on the adoption of the regime as he has made only be expensively controlled. I know that the rainfall here is capricious. Usually more than adequate, but occasionally like this spring so scarce that the stock were difficult to feed.

I am aware that the winters are long and that some feed conservations is essential. But

## HIGHLANDS FARMING

# A romantic's struggle

By JOHN CHERRINGTON, AGRICULTURE CORRESPONDENT

I AM writing this in one of the most idyllic spots on earth; on a fine day. The Hebridean bay is of silver sand, the sea an almost iridescent kaleidoscope between white and deep blue. The grey rocks around the point are nicely patterned with green grass or heather, almost black at this time of year. The distant hills of the mainland frame the whole against a most romantic backdrop.

Behind me on the verges of the shore are the crumbling stone walls of the roofless cabins in which the former inhabitants of this lovely land literally starved, until they either emigrated to the New World, to the navy. Their survivors became shepherds, established by a belated form of political conscience in preparation for the clearances which devastated the Highland populations a century and a half ago.

But the tiny crofts were no more than providers of a pittance, and without fishing or other cottage industries could no longer keep a people in the bare necessities of modern life than was possible previously.

The crofts became an excuse for living here, or turning them into holiday homes or leasing them to some of their stay-at-home neighbours.

But while what one might call the professionals have disappeared, their places are being taken by the romantics. At least, that is what I as a professional farmer myself would call them. I am not carried away by the scenery. I know that much of the lush green on the hills is bracken, a sure sign of a mineral soil but a weed most expensive to eradicate.

But blind to the voice of reason, even disdainful of the romantics flock in. Here I must say they are not confined to the Highlands and Islands. They occur everywhere that a house in whatever shape and a piece of land of no particular value for any sort of farming, can be secured.

Their motives are far from commercial, or so they say.

They are looking for independence, to escape from the rat race, which enslaves the rest of mankind; to be in safety when the social order crumbles, or the atom bombs fall. But having started at farming's basic levels

I can say that there is no rat race more intense than the struggle to make a farm pay if

you have insufficient capital to buy the essential fertilisers. Or to secure enough stock to cover your standing charges.

The other day I drove 20 miles along a Highland one-track road, which deteriorated to an unpaved track. At the road end found a farmhouse, with a garden enclosed by a high stockade to keep out the deer. A handful of cattle, a lamb and some hens. The farmer came out for a chat. He was an Englishman, as he told me from the selfsame rat race. He and his family lived on eggs and fish protein, and vegetables from his garden.

## Handful of goats

But although he claimed to be free of the rat race, he was just as dependent on modern society as anyone else. On his child allowances, for part of his cash. On the council's expenditure, such as it was, on the road down which he must take his spare vegetables for sale. For his seed potatoes and for the analysis he told me he had made of his soil before he started. On the market to get rid of the lobsters and wrinkles he harvested. On the medical services which can be called in to rescue his family if they fall ill.

The plain fact is that whether you yourself are engrossed in the competitive rat race, or living on it, as he appeared to be without really meaning to, there is simply no escaping it. No, I am wrong.

There are still a few idyllic uninhabited islands off the coast, at least they look idyllic on a fine day.

But blind to the voice of reason, even disdainful of the romantics flock in. Here I must say they are not confined to the Highlands and Islands. They occur everywhere that a house in whatever shape and a piece of land of no particular value for any sort of farming, can be secured.

Their motives are far from commercial, or so they say. They are looking for independence, to escape from the rat race, which enslaves the rest of mankind; to be in safety when the social order crumbles, or the atom bombs fall. But having started at farming's basic levels

I can say that there is no rat race more intense than the struggle to make a farm pay if new, I am sure.

## Source of flukes

I know that the pale green slopes, dotted at this season by cotton grass, is bog of varying depth, providing little grazing but a sure source of flukes and other pests on sheep which can only be expensively controlled. I know that the rainfall here is capricious. Usually more than adequate, but occasionally like this spring so scarce that the stock were difficult to feed.

I am aware that the winters are long and that some feed conservations is essential. But

## AMERICAN MARKETS

NEW YORK, June 12

**COCOA** PRICES were up yesterday on news that Brazil abandoned its export pricing structure. Coffee prices backed off on reports of hot weather in the Paraná region. Sugar advanced sharply on unconfirmed reports that Dom Pedro, the largest sugar refinery on its scale, would close mostly lower as doubts appeared about continued good demand. Gold staged a major rally on commission house buying and short-covering, helped by a sharp drop in the price of oil.

Cotton was locked into a narrow range. Copper followed the gold rally and ran into trade selling at the best levels. Maize closed mixed while wheat was fractionally higher and soybeans moderately lower, reported Heinfeld.

Copper—June 26.45 (93.75). July 27.00 (125.00). Aug. 28.00 (125.25). Sept. 28.24 (124.25). Oct. 29.00 (125.25).

Pork Bellies—June 30.70-30.80 (30.40).

Gold—Aug. 30.30-30.45 (30.80). Sept. 30.50-30.60 (31.00). Oct. 30.70-30.80 (31.20).

Soybeans—Aug. 630.50 (632.00). Sept. 638.00-652.00 (632.00). Nov. 652.00-654.00 (632.00). Dec. 654.00-656.00 (632.00).

Maize—Aug. 620.00-622.00 (618.00). Sept. 622.00-624.00 (620.00). Oct. 624.00-626.00 (620.00).

Wheat—Aug. 617.00-619.00 (617.00). Sept. 619.00-621.00 (619.00). Oct. 621.00-623.00 (619.00).

Cotton—Aug. 26.25-26.50 (26.25). Sept. 26.50-26.75 (26.75). Oct. 26.75-27.00 (27.00).

Sugar—Aug. 27.00-27.25 (27.00). Sept. 27.25-27.50 (27.50). Oct. 27.50-27.75 (27.75).

Crude Oil—Aug. 41.40-41.50 (41.50). Sept. 41.50-41.60 (41.60). Oct. 41.60-41.70 (41.70).

Platinum—Aug. 17.60-17.70 (17.70). Sept. 17.70-17.80 (17.80). Oct. 17.80-17.90 (17.90).

Gold—Aug. 18.60-18.70 (18.70). Sept. 18.70-18.80 (18.80). Oct. 18.80-18.90 (18.90).

Silver—Aug. 19.60-19.70 (19.70). Sept. 19.70-19.80 (19.80). Oct. 19.80-19.90 (19.90).

Lead—Aug. 21.60-21.70 (21.70). Sept. 21.70-21.80 (21.80). Oct. 21.80-21.90 (21.90).

Barrel Oil—Aug. 22.60-22.70 (22.70). Sept. 22.70-22.80 (22.80). Oct. 22.80-22.90 (22.90).

Gasoline—Aug. 23.60-23.70 (23.70). Sept. 23.70-23.80 (23.80). Oct. 23.80-23.90 (23.90).

Diesel Fuel—Aug. 24.50-24.60 (24.60). Sept. 24.60-24.70 (24.70). Oct. 24.70-24.80 (24.80).

Jet Fuel—Aug. 25.40-25.50 (25.50). Sept. 25.50-25.60 (25.60). Oct. 25.60-25.70 (25.70).

Heating Oil—Aug. 26.30-26.40 (26.40). Sept. 26.40-26.50 (26.50). Oct. 26.50-26.60 (26.60).

Gasoline—Aug. 27.20-27.30 (27.30). Sept. 27.30-27.40 (27.40). Oct. 27.40-27.50 (27.50).

Gasoline—Aug. 28.10-28.20 (28.20). Sept. 28.20-28.30 (28.30). Oct. 28.30-28.40 (28.40).

Gasoline—Aug. 29.00-29.10 (29.10). Sept. 29.10-29.20 (29.20). Oct. 29.20-29.30 (29.30).

Gasoline—Aug. 30.00-30.10 (30.10). Sept. 30.10-30.20 (30.20). Oct. 30.20-30.30 (30.30).

Gasoline—Aug. 31.00-31.10 (31.10). Sept. 31.10-31.20 (31.20). Oct. 31.20-31.30 (31.30).

Gasoline—Aug. 32.00-32.10 (32.10). Sept. 32.10-32.20 (32.20). Oct. 32.20-32.30 (32.30).

## LONDON STOCK EXCHANGE

# Fresh rise in equities again accentuated by shortage of stock—30-share index up 1.6 more at 448.5

## Account Dealing Dates

Options  
First Decra—Last Account Dealings: 1st June 13 June 23  
June 2 June 12 June 13 June 23  
June 16 June 26 June 27 July 7  
June 30 July 10 July 11 July 21  
Now "time" dealings may take place from 9 am two business days earlier.

The recent strong upward movement in equity markets showed no signs of abating yesterday. The Prime Minister's speech emphasising the Government's resolve to adhere to its strict monetary control policies failed to dampen fresh buying enthusiasm which resulted in a fairly widespread list of gains. Trading conditions in Gilt-edged remained quiet, but the trend here was also to higher levels and long-dated issues finished the session with rises of 1/4 and occasionally more.

Overall activity in equities remained at a fairly low ebb and shortage of stock again played an important part in the day's advance. This was particularly evident in the Property sector where closing gains were numerous and well above the average. Trading in some of the industrial leaders became a little more two-way, but profit-taking was well absorbed and the majority of quotations ended only slightly below the day's best. The FT 30-share index advanced 1.6 more to 448.5, making a rise of 3.6 so far on the Account which ends today.

Noteworthy movements in the leaders included Metal Box which responded afresh following comments on the preliminary figures, while firm features were fairly numerous throughout the sectors. Dealings restarted in News International at 190p, compared with the suspension price of 165p, following the capital proposals. South West Consolidated Minerals, Wednesday's newcomer which failed to come up to stag's expectations, traded quietly and drifted off on lack of support to close at 46p compared with the issue price of 50p.

Firmer conditions returned to British Funds yesterday although the volume of business was relatively small. The further call of £30 per cent due today on Exchequer 13½ per cent 1992, 1/2 harder at 220½, was possibly a restraining influence and the market was also waiting for the Government broker to reactivate the medium long tap Exchequer 13½ per cent 1994 240 paid, last dealt in a small way on Tuesday. However, closing improvements in the mediums and longs ranged to 1/4, while the shorts closed 1/4 below the day's best but still up to 1/4 better.

Traded options continued to attract an active business and 1,538 deals were completed. Racial annual results due next Thursday, were dealt 216 times, while BP and Shell attracted 213 and 140 trades respectively.

## Bank of Scotland up

Buyers came again for home banks in the belief that a further prolonged period of record interest rates will keep profits rising. Bank of Scotland were particularly favoured and closed 2½ to the good at 265p, but other major clearers closed a few pence below the best. Lloyds rose 5 to 315p, after 318p, and Midland ended 3 dearer at 355p, after 358p. Merchant banks were featured by a rise of 4 to 24p in Hill Samuel following the preliminary results, while renewed investment support lifted Hamm Bros 12 to 148p.

Leading Breweries again made a firm showing although the tone softened towards the close. Bass ended 2 better at 222p, while Arthur Guinness, in front of today's interim results, rose to 88p before settling for a net gain of 2 at 86p. Among regional issues, Mansfield added a couple of pence to 144p following the pleasing full-year profits, while Belhaven closed a penny better at 30p on the disposal of its Bermudian subsidiaries for 20.7m. Good support was noted for Distillers, 3 up at 201p.

In firm Buildings, Redland were notable for a gain of 6 at 165p, while Barratt Developments put on 4 more to 111p. Wimpey, a dull market of late on adverse Press comment, rallied a penny to 84p, while speculative interest lifted SGB 6 to 150p and Higgs and Hill 5 to 50p. Renewed speculative buying was noted for selected Timber issues. Montague L. Meyer adding 3 to 101p and Mallinson-Denny 2 to 68p.

ICI touched 373p before easing in the absence of new-time interest to close a couple of pence up at 370p.

## Kitchen Queen improve

Leading Stores closed with modest rises after attracting a better two-way business than of late. Burton gained 3 at 123p, while GUS A added 4 more to 180p. Mothercare, 242p, and British Stores, 280p, both firms, but House of Fraser moved against the trend and shed a couple of pence to 134p. Elsewhere, refuting speculative buying was noted for Polly Peck 6 up at 65p, while Currys picked up 4 more at 183p. News that the sale of the company's retail outlets has gone through lifted recently dull Kitchen Queen 2 at 11p. Lee

Cooper found fresh support and jumped 2 to 205p, but Combined English eased 2 to 35p on profit-taking. Harris Queensway hardened 3 to 185p, while further consideration of the chairman's annual statement helped Empire put on 2 more at 134p.

Scattered support was again seen for Electricals. Racial added 2 to 243p, the preliminary results due next Thursday. Farnell became a good market awaiting news from the annual meeting, rising 10 to 236p, while similar gains were recorded in Unitech.

Dealers found fresh support and

began the session firmly, but eased towards the close. Brent Walker added 2 to 74p on the good preliminary profits and increased dividend.

Metal Box stood out among the miscellaneous industrial leaders, rising 12 for a two-day advance of 2½ to 236p on the better-than-expected results and the chairman's encouraging remarks on prospects. Filton met support ahead of today's annual figures and rose 5 to 213p, after 215p. Elsewhere, speculative buying on revised bid

Deals in Godfrey Davis were suspended at 167p following the surprise news that the sale of its carhire business to European is to be referred to the Monopolies Commission; dealings in the shares are expected to resume today. Components were often firmer; Dewey added 4 to 192p, while increased far-eastern support was seen for Denison, 2 dearer at 73p. Flight Refuelling rose another 6 to 305p awaiting news from the annual meeting.

Deals were resumed in News International following the capital reorganisation proposals from Sir Rupert Murdoch's News Corporation and the close was 180p, which compares with the May 10 suspension price of 163p. Elsewhere in firm news papers, Associated continued to benefit from its interests in the Bruce gas field and rose 15 to 305p. Among advertising issues, Saatchi and Saatchi pleased with the increased annual profits and dividend and rose 11 to 183p, while demand was also shown for Mills and Allen, a similar amount up at 273p.

Undeterred by the less favourable outlook for lower interest rates, buyers made their presence felt in the Property sector where widespread and sometimes sizeable gains were exaggerated by stock shortages. Land Securities featured strongly in the leaders, rising 7 to 318p with the new nil-paid shares putting on 7 to 213p premium. MZPC gained 6 to 212p and Great Portland Estates 8 to 245p, while rises of around 10 were marked against Badenoch Estates, 330p, and Stock Couvert 336p.

Berkeley Ex jump

Oils continued in cautious vein in the wake of the non-too-clear result of the OPEC meeting in Algiers. An attempted rally from lower opening levels ran out of steam and prices drifted back to close at the day's lowest. British Petroleum finished 4 cheaper at 385p and Shell 2 off at 402p. But Ultramar improved 6 to 366p, after 370p. Elsewhere, buying ahead of the annual issue soon helped ICI Gas to 36 to 386p, while a late speculative burst lifted Berkeley Exploration 26 to 228p, after 232p. Aran put on 16 to 248p and Silkoone, still reflecting a recent investment recommendation, firm 9 more to 182p. A fair amount of interest was shown in Carrills Capi which added 4 to 132p ex rights; the new nil-paid shares opened at 35p premium and touched 38p a squeeze on bear positions.

During the morning but they subsequently turned easier to close only fractionally up on balance.

South African Financials were

feared by General Mining which rose sharply for the third successive day to close 75 higher at 395p following sizeable and persistent buying from Johannesburg.

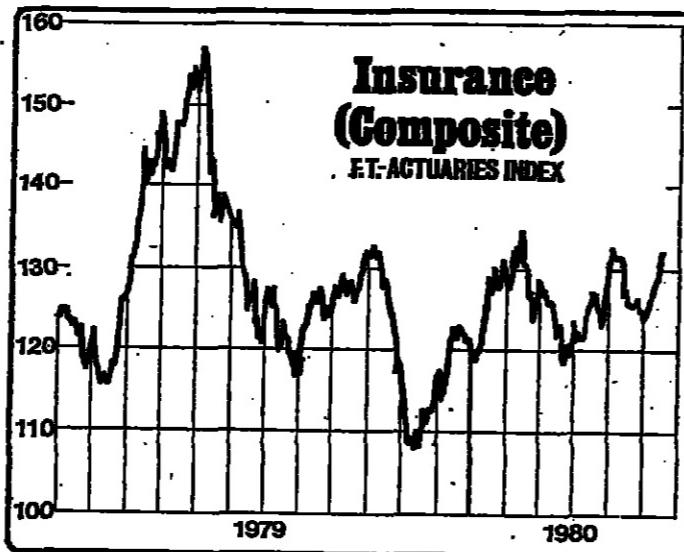
Other Australians were mixed. In the diamond exploration stocks, Leichhardt moved up 10 to 280p following news that the company has found an 8.6 carat gem diamond in its Drifts Read prospect in Cape Province, South Africa. Leading base-metal producers showed Western Mining 11 off at 239p.

South African Golds staged a minor rally despite the uncertain trend in the bullion market — gold was finally \$11 down at \$591 an ounce.

In generally subdued London Financials, Rio Tinto-Zinc were aggressively bought during the morning and touched 405p before reacting to close a net 5 better at 398p.

Bear closing and small-scale

fresh buying from local and overseas sources moved prices higher



283p, Standard Telephones, 320p, and Electrocomponents, 333p. The reduced annual earnings and dividend from Chloride came as no surprise and the close was unchanged at 47p.

The Engineering leaders continued to make steady progress. Helped by the group's opening on Wednesday of a 540m highly automated rolling mill which will increase annual capacity from 425,000 to 600,000 tonnes, GKN found renewed support and ended 240p before closing 4 up on balance at 239p. Tubes added a similar amount to 268p, while Vickers hardened the turn to 127p, after 128p. Elsewhere, demand ahead of next Tuesday's annual figures prompted a rise of 4 to 72p in GEI International.

## Metal Box up again

In Foods, Northern Rose 3 to 133p, after 134p, in response to the excellent interim results, while Cadbury Schweppes rallied 2 to 57p. Elsewhere, Carr's Milling became prominent, rising 11 to 51p in a thin market as speculative interest revived. Leading Hotels and Caterers

hopes helped Sharna Ware add 10 to 188p, while demand ahead of Monday's preliminary figures lifted National Carbonising 8 to 140p. The sharply higher profits and proposed £500,000 rights issue prompted a rise of 10 to 335p in Applied Computers, while Valor gained 4 to 57p, also after trading news. UKO International responded to the results with a rise of 9 to 123p and European Ferries reflected investment support with a gain of 4 to 154p. Still drawing strength from the bumper profits and proposed 100 per cent scrip-issue, Continuous Stationery added 4 more to 56p, while De La Rue closed 20 higher at 680p, after 685p. Thomas French, initially better at 125p, fell on mild disappointment with the interim figures and closed 2 down on balance at 115p.

Among leisure issues, Management Agency and Music firm 4 to 136p; the company has entered the fast-food catering business through a franchise agreement with Burger King. Elsewhere, Coral Leisure rose 3½ to 67p, after 66p, following a squeeze on bear positions.

## Leading Hotels and Caterers

Oils continued in cautious vein in the wake of the non-too-clear result of the OPEC meeting in Algiers. An attempted rally from lower opening levels ran out of steam and prices drifted back to close at the day's lowest.

British Petroleum finished 4 cheaper at 385p and Shell 2 off at 402p. But Ultramar improved 6 to 366p, after 370p. Elsewhere, buying ahead of the annual issue soon helped ICI Gas to 36 to 386p, while a late speculative burst lifted Berkeley Exploration 26 to 228p, after 232p. Aran put on 16 to 248p and Silkoone, still reflecting a recent investment recommendation, firm 9 more to 182p. A fair amount of interest was shown in Carrills Capi which added 4 to 132p ex rights; the new nil-paid shares opened at 35p premium and touched 38p a squeeze on bear positions.

During the morning but they subsequently turned easier to close only fractionally up on balance.

South African Financials were

feared by General Mining which rose sharply for the third successive day to close 75 higher at 395p following sizeable and persistent buying from Johannesburg.

In generally subdued London Financials, Rio Tinto-Zinc were

aggressively bought during the morning and touched 405p before reacting to close a net 5 better at 398p.

Bear closing and small-scale

fresh buying from local and overseas sources moved prices higher

## FT-ACTUARIES SHARE INDICES

These Indices are the joint compilation of the Financial Times, the Institute of Actuaries and the Faculty of Actuaries

## EQUITY GROUPS &amp; SUB-SECTIONS

Figures in parentheses show number of stocks per section

	THURS., JUNE 12, 1980									
	Index	Day's Change %	Est. Earnings Yield % (Mkt.)	Gross Div. Yield %	Ed/P/E Ratio (x P/E)	Price Index No.	Index No.	Index No.	Index No.	Year ago (approx.)
1 CAPITAL GOODS(172)	238.18	+0.8	18.44	6.75	6.71	292.22	293.61	293.62	292.82	246.12
2 Building Materials (26)	236.91	+0.7	18.18	6.94	4.46	323.55	323.64	323.66	322.72	230.55
3 Contracting, Construction(27)	347.79	+1.2	26.90	6.96	343.55	343.97	340.89	343.14	326.24	326.24
4 Electricals (16)	631.61	+0.5	13.35	4.09	7.70	622.84	613.20	606.89	598.73	598.73
5 Engineering Contractors (11)	289.32	+0.1	23.61	8.96	5.30	289.05	286.41	287.57	286.36	283.48
6 Mechanical Engineering (74)	159.55	+0.9	20.17	6.26	6.00	158.10	158.47	152.51	148.79	148.79
8 Metals and Metal Forming(16)	155.71	+1.6	22.51	10.51	5.33	153.26	153.01	152.11	150.60	171.79
11 CONSUMER GOODS (12)	219.29	+1.1	15.57	6.04	7.88	207.77	209.77	204.33	202.85	200.34
12 LL. Electronics, Radio, TV(14)	307.59	+1.3	11.88	4.35	10.78	303.59	303.63	298.53	295.23	293.66
13 Household Goods (14)	95.53	+1.6	30.95	11.01	3.85	94.00	93.92	93.97	93.47	163.62
14 Motors and Distributors (21)	97.90	+0.4	23.89	10.87	4.94	97.62	97.62	95.65	95.55	117.87
21 NON-BURABLES (12)	222.03	+0.8	18.65	7.19	6.47	220.23	218.42	215.85	212.72	221.38
22 Breweries (14)	226.35	+0.5	15.40	6.44	7.57	210.77	210.77	207.22	204.44	204.30
23 Wines and Spirits (5)	300.29	+1.4	18.34	6.22	6.75	206.24	204.64	204.45	204.45	204.01
24 Entertainment, Catering (17)	315.52	+0.1	18.34	7.07	5.74	315.35	315.32	307.67	304.67	302.52
25 Food Manufacturers(21)	195.72	+0.5	20.52	7.61	5.74	194.71	194.58	191.59	191.59	215.00
26 Food Retailing(13)	322.00	+0.6	13.21	4.81	4.81	322.12	32			



# BOLD

That's BTR

# FT SHARE INFORMATION SERVICE

## BRITISH FUNDS

High	Low	Stock	Price	%	Wkd.	Mo.	Ytd.	Yr.
95	94	"Shorts" (Lives up to Five Years)	95.45	+6	13.97	13.97		
97	96	Exchequer 13pc 1900	95.45	+6	13.97	14.12		
98	97	Treasury 11pc 1902	95.45	+6	11.45	11.45		
99	98	Treasury 10pc 1904	95.45	+6	10.05	10.05		
99	98	Treasury 9pc 1906	95.45	+6	11.71	11.71		
99	98	Exch. 8pc 1907	95.45	+6	11.55	11.55		
99	98	Exch. 9pc 1901	95.45	+6	9.95	9.95		
99	98	Exch. 7pc 1902	95.45	+6	12.50	12.50		
99	98	Exch. 12pc 1903	95.45	+6	14.44	14.44		
99	98	Exch. 12pc 1904	95.45	+6	12.50	12.50		
99	98	Exch. 12pc 1905	95.45	+6	12.50	12.50		
99	98	Treasury 10pc 1906	95.45	+6	11.45	11.45		
99	98	Treasury 10pc 1907	95.45	+6	11.45	11.45		
99	98	Treasury 9pc 1908	95.45	+6	11.45	11.45		
99	98	Treasury 9pc 1909	95.45	+6	11.45	11.45		
99	98	Treasury 9pc 1910	95.45	+6	11.45	11.45		
99	98	Treasury 9pc 1911	95.45	+6	11.45	11.45		
99	98	Treasury 9pc 1912	95.45	+6	11.45	11.45		
99	98	Treasury 9pc 1913	95.45	+6	11.45	11.45		
99	98	Treasury 9pc 1914	95.45	+6	11.45	11.45		
99	98	Treasury 9pc 1915	95.45	+6	11.45	11.45		
99	98	Treasury 9pc 1916	95.45	+6	11.45	11.45		
99	98	Treasury 9pc 1917	95.45	+6	11.45	11.45		
99	98	Treasury 9pc 1918	95.45	+6	11.45	11.45		
99	98	Treasury 9pc 1919	95.45	+6	11.45	11.45		
99	98	Treasury 9pc 1920	95.45	+6	11.45	11.45		
99	98	Treasury 9pc 1921	95.45	+6	11.45	11.45		
99	98	Treasury 9pc 1922	95.45	+6	11.45	11.45		
99	98	Treasury 9pc 1923	95.45	+6	11.45	11.45		
99	98	Treasury 9pc 1924	95.45	+6	11.45	11.45		
99	98	Treasury 9pc 1925	95.45	+6	11.45	11.45		
99	98	Treasury 9pc 1926	95.45	+6	11.45	11.45		
99	98	Treasury 9pc 1927	95.45	+6	11.45	11.45		
99	98	Treasury 9pc 1928	95.45	+6	11.45	11.45		
99	98	Treasury 9pc 1929	95.45	+6	11.45	11.45		
99	98	Treasury 9pc 1930	95.45	+6	11.45	11.45		
99	98	Treasury 9pc 1931	95.45	+6	11.45	11.45		
99	98	Treasury 9pc 1932	95.45	+6	11.45	11.45		
99	98	Treasury 9pc 1933	95.45	+6	11.45	11.45		
99	98	Treasury 9pc 1934	95.45	+6	11.45	11.45		
99	98	Treasury 9pc 1935	95.45	+6	11.45	11.45		
99	98	Treasury 9pc 1936	95.45	+6	11.45	11.45		
99	98	Treasury 9pc 1937	95.45	+6	11.45	11.45		
99	98	Treasury 9pc 1938	95.45	+6	11.45	11.45		
99	98	Treasury 9pc 1939	95.45	+6	11.45	11.45		
99	98	Treasury 9pc 1940	95.45	+6	11.45	11.45		
99	98	Treasury 9pc 1941	95.45	+6	11.45	11.45		
99	98	Treasury 9pc 1942	95.45	+6	11.45	11.45		
99	98	Treasury 9pc 1943	95.45	+6	11.45	11.45		
99	98	Treasury 9pc 1944	95.45	+6	11.45	11.45		
99	98	Treasury 9pc 1945	95.45	+6	11.45	11.45		
99	98	Treasury 9pc 1946	95.45	+6	11.45	11.45		
99	98	Treasury 9pc 1947	95.45	+6	11.45	11.45		
99	98	Treasury 9pc 1948	95.45	+6	11.45	11.45		
99	98	Treasury 9pc 1949	95.45	+6	11.45	11.45		
99	98	Treasury 9pc 1950	95.45	+6	11.45	11.45		
99	98	Treasury 9pc 1951	95.45	+6	11.45	11.45		
99	98	Treasury 9pc 1952	95.45	+6	11.45	11.45		
99	98	Treasury 9pc 1953	95.45	+6	11.45	11.45		
99	98	Treasury 9pc 1954	95.45	+6	11.45	11.45		
99	98	Treasury 9pc 1955	95.45	+6	11.45	11.45		
99	98	Treasury 9pc 1956	95.45	+6	11.45	11.45		
99	98	Treasury 9pc 1957	95.45	+6	11.45	11.45		
99	98	Treasury 9pc 1958	95.45	+6	11.45	11.45		
99	98	Treasury 9pc 1959	95.45	+6	11.45	11.45		
99	98	Treasury 9pc 1960	95.45	+6	11.45	11.45		
99	98	Treasury 9pc 1961	95.45	+6	11.45	11.45		
99	98	Treasury 9pc 1962	95.45	+6	11.45	11.45		
99	98	Treasury 9pc 1963	95.45	+6	11.45	11.45		
99	98	Treasury 9pc 1964	95.45	+6	11.45	11.45		
99	98	Treasury 9pc 1965	95.45	+6	11.45	11.45		
99	98	Treasury 9pc 1966	95.45	+6	11.45	11.45		
99	98	Treasury 9pc 1967	95.45	+6	11.45	11.45		
99	98	Treasury 9pc 1968	95.45	+6	11.45	11.45		
99	98	Treasury 9pc 1969	95.45	+6	11.45	11.45		
99	98	Treasury 9pc 1970	95.45	+6	11.45	11.45		
99	98	Treasury 9pc 1971	95.45	+6	11.45	11.45		
99	98	Treasury 9pc 1972	95.45	+6	11.45	11.45		
99	98	Treasury 9pc 1973	95.45	+6	11.45	11.45		
99	98	Treasury 9pc 1974	95.45	+6	11.45	11.45		
99	98	Treasury 9pc 1975	95.45	+6	11.45	11.45		
99	98	Treasury 9pc 1976	95.45	+6	11.45	11.45		
99	98	Treasury 9pc 1977	95.45	+6	11.45	11.45		
99	98	Treasury 9pc 1978	95.45	+6	11.45	11.45		
99	98	Treasury 9pc 1979	95.45	+6	11.45	11.45		
99	98	Treasury 9pc 1980	95.45	+6	11.45	11.45		
99	98	Treasury 9pc 1981	95.45	+6	11.45	11.45		
99	98	Treasury 9pc 1982	95.45	+6	11.45	11.45		
99	98	Treasury 9pc 1983	95.45	+6	11.45	11.45		
99	98	Treasury 9pc 1984	95.45	+6	11.45	11.45		
99	98	Treasury 9pc 1985	95.45	+6	11.45	11.45		
99	98	Treasury 9pc 1986	95.45	+6	11.45	11.45		
99	98	Treasury 9pc 1987	95.45	+6	11.45	11.45		
99	98	Treasury 9pc 1988	95.45	+6	11.45	11.45		
99	98	Treasury 9pc 1989	95.45	+6</				

Financial Times Friday June 13 1980  
INDUSTRIALS Continued

## INDUSTRIALS—Continued

## **INSURANCE—Continued**

## **PROPERTY—Continued**

## **INVESTMENT TRUSTS—Cont.**

## **FINANCE, LAND—Continued**

- a fully integrated banking service

# **DAIWA BANK**

**Head Office: Osaka, Japan**

**MINES—Continued**

Australia

High	Low	Stock	Price	+ -	Mr.	Mr.	Ctr
190							
24	21	Acme 50c	22				
		ACM 20c	15				
100	92	Bond Corp.	100	+5	M22.5c	2.2	11
155	132	Bougainville 1 Gold	124	+3	M22.5c	1.0	11
265	195	BH South 50c	200				
25	175	Canada Northwest	21				
42	35	Carr Boyd 20c	32				
£30	£154	Central Pacific	£27.5c	-2	OL5c	2.1	2
356	230	Cougar Helio 50c	270				
39	17	Citrus Pacific N.	35				
50	29	Eagle Corp. 10c	30				
262	154	Endeavour 20c	26	-2			
372	175	G. M. Kalgoorlie 20c	350	-5	135c	1.1	2
46		Great Eastern	222				
395	260	Hampton Areas 50c	350				
52	30	Hazma Gold N.L.	73	-2	3.5	2.8	1
720	89	Leichhardt Explor.	200	+20			
73	41	M. I. M. Hills 50c	60				
512	157	Minfield Expl. 25c	219	-1	M16.2c	1.8	3
20	7	Moon Lyell 25c	15				
155	60	Newmetal 20c	80	-2			
28	15	Nickelore N.L.	15	-5			
35	12	North B. Hill 50c	22				
277	137	Ntu. Kalgoorlie	166		102.2c	1.4	3
88	44	Nth. Mining Corp.	72	-2			
155	90	N. West Mining N.L.	125	-5			
56	24	Cambridge SA1	62				
235	144	Olimax N. L.	125		OL2c	4.7	3
122	70	Pacific Copper	100				
230	126	Paragon M&E 50c	214				
465	255	Perseon 1.25c	225	+15			
78	42	Peko-Wallend 50c	55				
495	335	Sctrust A	265	-5	1017.5c	4	2
220	140	Southern Pacific	164				
217	575	Sum Resources 20c	216.4	-4			
75	51	West Coast 25c	60				
13	8	West. Mining 50c	8				
264	177	Westmax	239	-11	107c	1.6	1
30		Whim Creek 20c	15				
128	56	York Resources	155		N		
25							

OIL AND GA

		Tins			
25	14	Assal Nigeria 1lb -	15	16.0	
245	25	Ayer Hitam \$M1 -	250	\$200c	8.9
67	42	Berjatul Tin _____	49	4.5	
190	140	Berjatul \$M1 -	180	\$105c	1.1
230	153	Cavoor _____	180	\$105c	1.1
11	10	Gold & Rose 12½d -	10½	-	
400	310	Gopeng Cons. _____	375	125.0	1.1
320	280	Hongkong _____	320	25.67	2.2
125	90	Ionis 10c _____	90	14.0	
15	12	Jambar 12½d -	12	1.5	
85	54	Kamunting \$M1 50c -	55	9.47	1.1
225	150	Killingfield \$M1 -	225c	\$150c	9.4
730	485	Lake Dredging \$M1 -	730c	\$100c	0.3
33	26	Palang _____	32	0.44	0.3
128	90	Pengkalan 10p -	92	6.0	
290	230	Petaling \$M1 -	270d	\$105c	1.1
70	57	Saint Crofty 10D -	55	12.5	0.4
44	28	Saint Kinta \$M1 50c -	30	15.0	
255	180	Saint Malacca \$M1 -	250#	\$105c	1.1
450	340	Singel Besi \$M1 -	450#	\$105c	1.1
295	215	Supreme Corp. \$M1 -	215	\$105c	1.1
39	22	Tanjong 15p -	38	10.0	
100	92	Tengah 10c -	92d	24.5	
35	80	Tengah H. Tin -	80	9.60c	1.1
320	220	Tronoh \$M1 -	320d	\$250c	0.1
		Copper			
235	130	Messina R0.50 -	175	m010c	+
Miscellaneous					
170	782	Anglo-Dominion -	135	-	
97	56	Baryinia _____	60	+3	
17	12	Burma Mines 10p -	15½	-1	0.62
512	320	Cons. March 10c -	320	\$105c	1.1
585	325	Northgate C\$1 -	410	+19	
685	327	R.T.Z. _____	395	+5	15.0
33	16	Robert Mines _____	23	-	3.2
58	26	Sabine Islets C\$1 -	30	-	5
550	471	Tara Evans. S\$1 -	455	+10	

**OVERSEAS TRADERS**

## NOTES

Unless otherwise indicated, prices and net dividends are in pence and denominations are 25p. Estimated price/earnings ratios and covers are based on latest annual reports and accounts and, where possible, are updated on half-yearly figures. P/Es are calculated on "net" distribution basis; earnings per share being computed on profit after taxation and unreduced ACT where applicable; bracketed figures indicate 10 per cent or more difference if calculated on "all" distribution. Covers are based on "minimum" distributions that compares gross dividend costs to profit after taxation, excluding exceptional profits/losses but including estimated extent of offsetting ACT. Yields are based on midline prices, are gross, adjusted to ACT at 30 per cent and allow for value of declared distribution and rights.

- **"Top Stock."**
- **Highs and Lows** marked thus have been adjusted to allow for rights issues for cash.
- ↑ **Interim slice increased or resumed.**
- ↓ **Interim slice reduced, passed or deferred.**
- ## **Tax-free to non-residents on application.**
- ◆ **Figures or report awaited.**
- † **Unlisted security.**
- ‡ **Price at time of suspension.**
- § **Indicated dividend after pending scrip and/or rights issue; base relates to previous dividends or forecasts.**
- ◆ **Merger bid or reorganisation in progress.**
- ◆ **Not comparable.**
- ◆ **Some interim reduced final and/or reduced earnings indicated.**

## RUBBERS AND SISALS

- ↓ Forecast dividend; cover on earnings updated by latest financial statement.
- ↓ Cover allows for conversion of shares not now ranking for dividends or ranking only for restricted dividend.
- ↓ Cover does not allow for shares which may also rank for dividends at a future date. No P/E ratio usually provided.
- ↓ Excluding a final dividend declaration.
- ↓ Regional price.
- ↓ No par value.
- ↓ Yield based on assumption Treasury Bill Rate stays unchanged with majority of stock, a Tax free, b Figures based on prospectus or other official estimate, c Cents, d Dividend rate paid or payable on part capital; cover based on dividend on full capital, e Redemption yield, f Fixed yield, g Assumed dividend and yield, h Assumed dividends at yield after strip issue, i Payment from capital sources, j Known at interest higher than previous total, l Rights issue pending, m Earnings based on preliminary figures, n Dividend and yield exclude a special payment, o Indicated dividend; cover relates to previous dividend, P/E ratio based on latest annual earnings, p Forecast dividend; cover based on previous year's earnings, r Tax free on 30p in the £, s Yield allows for currency clause, t Dividend and yield based on merger terms, u Dividend and yield include a special payment, v Cover does not apply to special payment, w Net dividend and yield, x Preferential dividend passed or deferred, y Canadian, E Minimum tender price, F Dividend and yield based on prospectus or other official estimates for 1979-80, g Assumed dividend and yield after pending strip and/or rights issue, h Dividend and yield based on prospectus or other official estimates for 1980-81, k Figures based on prospectus or other official estimates for 1979-80, m Dividend and yield based on prospectus or other official estimates for 1980, n Dividend and yield based on prospectus or other official estimates for 1979, o Figure based on prospectus or other official estimates for 1978-79, p Figure based on prospectus or other official estimates for 1978-79, q Gross T Figures assumed, z Dividend total to date.

**Abbreviations:** n.d. ex dividend; ex ex scrip issue; n.r. no rights; n.s. no scrip issue; n.t. no tax; n.v. no value.

## REGIONAL MARKETS

The following is a selection of London quotations of shares previously listed only in regional markets. Prices of Irish issues, most of which are not officially listed in London, are as quoted on the Irish exchange.

## OPTIONS

#### **3-month Call Rates**

Industrials	I.C.I.	27	Utd. Drapery
A. Brew.	"Tango"	6	Vickers
B.C.C. Ind.	I.C.I.	14	Woolworths
B.S.R.	Inveresk	4	
Babcock	Ladbrooke	15	Property
Barclays Bank	Legal & Gen.	15	Brit. Land
Beacham	Lex Service	8	Cap. Counties
Blue Circle	Lloyd's Bank	3	Lived Secs.
Boots	"Lots"	32	M.E.P.C.
Bowaters	London Brick	6	Pearcey
B.A.T.	Lucas Logs	17	Samuel Prop.
Brown (J.)	"Mangs"	14	Town & City
Burns 'A'	Mitch. & Spence	2	
Cadbury's	Midland Bank	26	Offs
Courtwards	N.E.I.	5	
Debenham's	Nat. West. Bank	27	Brit. Petroleum
Distillers	P & O Dtd.	10	Burnett Oil
Dunlop	Plessey	16	Chartered
Eagle Star	Royal Elect.	22	KCA
F.N.P.C.	R.H.M.	47	Premier
Gen. Accident	Rank Org.	15	Shell
Gen. Electric	Reed Total	15	Tricenov
Glasso	Sears	5	Ultranet
Grand Met	Tesco	6	
E.U.S. 'A'	Theba	23	Mines
Guardian	Trust Houses	12	Charter Corp.
G.K.N.	Tube Invest.	23	Cost. Gold
Hawker Sidde	Unilever	49	Lorano
House of Fraser	U.D.T.	52	No T. Zinc

HALL &amp; PICKLES

SHEFFIELD

STEEL AND  
TOOLS

## FINANCIAL TIMES

Friday June 13 1980

BELL'S  
SCOTCH WHISKY  
BELL'S

# Japanese Ministers to stay until election

BY CHARLES SMITH, FAR EAST EDITOR, IN TOKYO

THE JAPANESE Cabinet resigned after a special meeting yesterday following the sudden death of Mr. Masayoshi Ohira, the Prime Minister. Ministers will, however, remain in their posts pending the appointment of a new Prime Minister after the General Election on June 22.

Both the resignations and the retention of ministers are provided for by the constitution. The Acting Prime Minister, Chief Cabinet Secretary Mr. Masayoshi Ito, took over immediately after Mr. Ohira suffered a heart attack in yesterday's early hours.

Mr. Ito said that three Cabinet ministers will represent Japan at the Venice summit. They are: Mr. Saburo Okita, Foreign Minister; Mr. Yoshitake Sasaki, Minister of International Trade and Industry; and Mr. Noboru Takeshita, Minister of Finance.

counted.

Potential successors to Mr. Ohira, who include Mr. Takeo Fukuda, the former Prime Minister, and Mr. Yasuhiro Nakasone, former Defence Agency Director General avoided reference to the leadership issue today. They are not expected to show their hands until after the elections are over.

Campaigning for Japan's General election to the upper and lower houses of the Diet, the Japanese Parliament, continued at full tilt today with no sign that the outcome had been affected by the tragedy.

The chances are not much more than even that the Liberal Democratic Party will be able to retain its overall majority in the lower house of the Diet—the test of the party's ability to govern.

Features, Page 20

# European Council aims to defuse issue of trade war fears

BY GILES MERRITT IN VENICE

THE RISK of the EEC becoming engaged in a protectionist trade war involving Japan and the U.S. surfaced yesterday at Venice, where the heads of government of the Nine are meeting in the European Council.

The European Council is apparently determined to defuse the issue in advance of the June 22-23 Western Economic Summit, at which the leaders of West Germany, France, the UK and Italy will be tackling such issues with President Carter of the U.S. and their Japanese and Canadian counterparts.

The aim is to present a coherent and unified community position on sensitive trade questions at the forthcoming

seven-power Venice summit. At the same time it aims to seek trade pledges from the U.S. and Japan.

West German concern that protectionist pressures inside the EEC could trigger retaliation has put the question of Europe's relations with her chief industrial trading partners close to the top of the summit agenda.

One problem is that Japanese trade diverted from the EEC to the U.S. could, in turn, result in American curbs on EEC exports.

Detailed discussion of the threat is scheduled for this morning, during the closing stages of the two-day European Council. Chancellor

# Hill Samuel appoints new chief

By Michael Lafferty, Banking Correspondent

SIR ROBERT CLARK is to give up his position as chief executive of Hill Samuel, the merchant banking and financial services group, which yesterday revealed that it had incurred net losses of £3m in its insurance broking subsidiary.

Sir Robert, who is to stay as executive chairman of the group for four years, will be succeeded as chief executive in August by Mr. Christopher Castlemore, until recently managing director of Hill Samuel South Africa.

Last month, Hill Samuel said Mr. Castlemore, aged 38, would become deputy chief executive of the group in August.

The group's net attributable profits slumped from over £7m to £5m in the year to March, 1980. This was in spite of substantially increased profits from the main merchant banking part of the group, where disclosed net profits are up from £5m to £8m.

Hill Samuel's major problem in the past year has been on the insurance broking side, which incurred a net after-tax trading loss of £1m. A large part of this related to bad debts going back many years. In addition, Hill Samuel has had to write off £1.4m as an extraordinary loss in respect of relocation costs at the division. Mr. Victor Wood, who left the group last year, had previously been responsible for this part of Hill Samuel.

Sir Robert said yesterday he was confident the group's main problems had now been solved. "We have cleaned up the stable. We are absolutely determined to make more profits this year, and we will," he said.

Sir Robert maintained that it would not be fair to judge his record on Hill Samuel's flat profit record over the past three years, during which he was chief executive. He said that certain problems needed to be tackled when he had taken over, and it had taken time to do that.

Until 1977, Lord Keith, a former chairman of the Rolls-Royce aero-engine group, had been chief executive at Hill Samuel. He remained as the group's non-executive chairman until last month.

Mr. Castlemore said yesterday in Johannesburg that his only condition for taking on the job of chief executive had been that Sir Robert would remain as Hill Samuel's executive chairman for a further four years. He said Sir Robert had done a lot of the hard work which had been necessary to reorganise the group.

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# Ban on St. Piran's shares extended

By REG VAUGHAN

THE STOCK EXCHANGE, in one of its strongest pronouncements, yesterday forbade its members to deal in any business for Mr. Jim Raper, the former Saint Piran chairman, and extended the suspension of dealings in the company's shares indefinitely.

This follows Wednesday's rebuke from the City Takeover Panel, which described Mr. Raper's conduct as "deplorable" and said he "is unfit to be a director of a public company."

The panel has already said that Mr. Raper and three foreign-based companies which have built up shareholdings totalling 37 per cent in St. Piran should make a full bid—but this has not been done.

The shares of this tin mining and property company suspended since May 20, are to remain in limbo until and unless Gasco, Mr. Raper's master company either:

● Promises not to use its voting power in St. Piran, or

● Makes a bid, or disposes of a large part of its holding.

Alternatively, the present board, including Mr. Malcolm Stone (the chairman, who is also managing director of Gasco), must vote itself out of office. The Stock Exchange might also change its mind if the Department of Trade investigation, still in progress, justifies a restoration of the listing.

Gasco Investments has already said it would make a general offer if the necessary finance could be raised. Mr. Stone said yesterday that "realistic efforts" were being made but claimed that the actions of the panel would not be helpful to Gasco in raising money.

St. Piran said that it was "very concerned" about the effect of the suspension on its small shareholders. It urged that the quotation be restored pending the DoT report into the affairs of the company.

# Chloride dividend cut

CHLORIDE, one of the world's leading manufacturers of rechargeable batteries, has cut its dividend in the face of a collapse in profits from £29m to £18.7m pre-tax for the year to the end of March.

Attributing the fall to the most severe drop in international demand for batteries for 25 years, Sir Alastair Pilkington, the new chairman, announced yesterday that the dividend for the year is to be cut from 6.3p net to 4p "to conserve funds."

Later, Mr. John Ray, the chief executive, warned: "I don't believe we have touched bottom yet."

Sales of automotive batteries in Europe and the U.S. dropped by 12 per cent

last year and the trading climate could be worsening, although Chloride claims to have maintained market share.

In the final quarter demand for automotive batteries in Europe slumped by more than 30 per cent, the company says.

One reason for the decline according to Mr. Ray, was that customers were taking more care of their car batteries and using home rechargers.

Overall, the downturn in sales of automotive batteries cost the company £4.5m in operating costs and £2.7m in redundancies. At the same time high interest rates forced interest charges up from £7.6m to £12.3m.

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Continues from Page 1

# Ford alerted to gearbox fault

BY IAN HARGREAVES IN NEW YORK AND JOHN GRIFFITHS IN LONDON

FORD MOTOR company yesterday revealed that an automatic transmission system alleged by an U.S. Government agency to be defective and possibly dangerous had been fitted to all Ford automatic cars built in Europe between 1973 and 1979. The number of cars affected in Europe could be as high as 350,000.

Automatic transmissions are fitted to a far smaller proportion of cars in Europe than in the U.S.—slightly under 10 per cent. Even this is a significantly greater proportion than in 1973, when Ford's Bordeaux plant started producing the C3 automatic gearbox now fitted to all Ford's automatic cars, from the Granada down to the Escort, and which is included in the U.S. action against Ford.

The chances are not much more than even that the Liberal Democratic Party will be able to retain its overall majority in the lower house of the Diet—the test of the party's ability to govern.

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National Highway Traffic Safety Administration that there is a defect in the transmissions "is based upon inaccurate and inadequate information."

Ford plans to argue its case at the public hearing in Washington. If it fails to convince the U.S. Department of Transportation, it will be forced to recall the vehicles in the largest product recall in the U.S. motor industry's history.

Such a recall would cost Ford hundreds of millions of dollars in a year when it is expected to lose over \$2bn on its U.S. motor operations—and seriously damage its reputation at a time when the image of its small cars is still emerging from the shadow of safety allegations about its Pinto model.

The agency's "initial determination" says that Ford transmissions built between 1973 and 1979 contained a design error which may have been responsible for 6,600 accidents and 98 deaths in the U.S.

Apart from reiterating Detroit's line that "we accept some of these charges," Ford UK would not speculate in London on what action the European division might take if a safety hearing in Washington on July 21 went against the company.

Mr. Roger Maugh, director of automotive safety at U.S. Ford, said the conclusions of the

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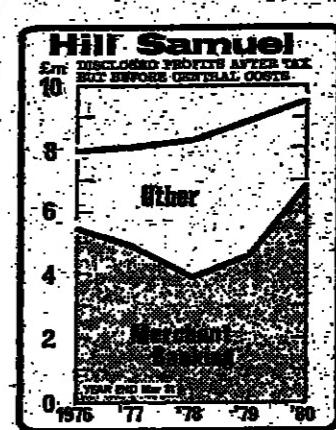
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# THE LEX COLUMN

# Dividend dims at Chloride

Index rose 1.6 to 448.5



a total pre-tax figure of £14.8m against £12m in the six months to March. But for an ill-timed £10m leasing shorty before Bluebird provided a more constructive home for the group's cash, the figure would be £15.8m.

In the UK, a strong performance on the milk and food manufacturing side has made up for dull conditions in liquid milk and Pork Farms has returned to budget after a weak first quarter. Beer and biscuits have done well compared with the difficult 1978-79 winter, while milling has benefited from the higher flour prices; the canning business has been difficult, but at least Northern's overall reliance on perishable goods has spared the stock market that have troubled other food manufacturers.

The balance sheet now shows debt at 55 per cent of tangible shareholders' funds, a figure which a revaluation of Bluebird's assets together with retentions should bring down below 40 per cent over the next year. Capital spending is about to fall, and Northern will be looking to add capacity through further acquisitions. This year the group should be £30m (against £15.8m).

## B & C Shipping

The timing could not have been more unfortunate for merging British and Common Shipping's fixed-wing interests in Air UK, which produced £24m of losses for the company after rough trading.

This particular problem will not recur now that Hill Samuel has withdrawn from Eurobond dealing, and the group has not thought that the bottom has been reached.

In addition, sharply higher lead prices have helped to push net borrowings up by £20m to £83m, or 78 per cent of shareholders' funds, and interest write-offs have led to substantial write-offs. Insurance broking shows an after tax loss of over £12.3m. The figures would have looked even worse but for around £3m of stock profits: the current cost outcome is just £8.1m before tax.

Chloride is confident that demand for automotive batteries will bounce back eventually—maybe at the beginning of 1981—and the current dividend payout is clearly intended to represent a base level. But the payment is covered less than 1.5 times by historic cost earnings, and interest costs are only covered 2.4 times. With profits under severe pressure in the current half year, there could be a few more nervous months to come.

## Hill Samuel

All the recent executive comings and goings at Hill Samuel have emphasised the group's problems, and indeed the results show a marginal decline in disclosed group net profits to £7.69m. Still, there is encouragement in the 51 per cent jump in banking profits. Lending volume has risen, and there have been good results in Australia and South Africa as well as in the UK. At home, Hill Samuel has enough branches with current account balances to have benefited significantly from the endowment effect of high interest rates, while corporate finance fees have been up and charged. So profits may be at least a tenth, and at this level the share price, up 31 per cent yesterday at 300p, produces a prospective p/e of about 8 fully taxed. Though the historical yield, at 8.1 per cent, is 16.5m, although the improvement is reduced to 34 per cent once a surcharge on ship sales is stripped out.

Prospects for the current year are brighter when the losses at Air UK should be cut back while greater North Sea activity is providing a boost to Bristol Helicopter. The benefits of the charter rates for product tankers will come through while a fall in interest rates would widen the narrowing gap between interest received and charged. So profits may be at least a tenth, and at this level the share price, up 31 per cent yesterday at 300p, produces a prospective p/e of about 8 fully taxed.

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Continues from Page 1

# Europcar bid to be probed

Godfrey Davis in the wake of the Europcar offer but withdrew because it believed this would almost certainly provoke a Monopolies reference. Hertz may now feel that an offer would lose it nothing.

Last night Godfrey Davis said it had not heard from Hertz its deal with Europcar would go ahead, subject to Government approval, and the Monopolies Commission would be given the fullest co-operation.

Deals in Godfrey Davis shares were halted temporarily yesterday at the company's request.

Midland Bank Industrial Investments has already agreed to take a minority stake in the new company which would be called Godfrey Davis-Europcar. Under the deal with Europcar, existing Godfrey Davis shareholders would receive 11.5p per share for the hire company, the equivalent of £17.4m. The remaining Godfrey Davis activities (car distribution, retailing, long-term lease, caravan sales and rentals) would benefit from a £4.6m dividend payment from the hire activities.

The DoT appears to have been worried by the amount Europcar was prepared to pay. However, Hertz was thought to be willing to offer more.

Part of Europcar's motivation is that it is already the biggest rental organisation in Europe, but its presence in the British market—itself the biggest single European market—is minor.

Suggestions that Europcar might perhaps use Godfrey Davis as a way of boosting Renault sales in Britain were dismissed by the two sides as "commercial suicide."

## Weather

UK TODAY  
RAIN in most areas, becoming brighter in S.E. England. Sunny in Scotland, except the south.

LONDON, S.E. and Cen. S. England, Charnels Isles  
Rain, giving way to showers and bright intervals. Max 19C (66F).

Rest of England, Wales, Isle of Man, Borders, S.W. Scotland, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Dundee, N. Ireland. Cloudy with rain, heavy at times.